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Reference	IOR/L/PS/12/2148
Title	Coll 6/75 'Institutions in Arabia receiving financial support from H.E.H. the Nizam of Hyderabad.'
Date(s)	31 Aug 1931-5 Dec 1938 (CE, Gregorian)
Written in	English in Latin
Extent and Format	1 file (58 folios)
Holding Institution	British Library: India Office Records and Private Papers
Copyright for document	<u>Unknown</u>

About this record

This file relates to institutions in the Hejaz (later Saudi Arabia) that have received or have been offered financial support from the Government of the Nizam of Hyderabad.

The file features the following principal correspondents: the Resident at Hyderabad, the Foreign Secretary to the Government of India, His Majesty's Minister at Jedda (Sir Andrew Ryan), and the Saudi Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The correspondence primarily concerns proposals from the Government of the Nizam of Hyderabad to install electric lights in the haram at Medina and to repair a number of holy tombs there, in commemoration of the Nizam's silver jubilee. Included in the correspondence are details of the proposals and the Saudi Government's response.

Also included in the file is correspondence dating from 1931 discussing the alleged interference of the Hejazi authorities regarding the religious instruction provided at a Hyderabad-funded Hanafi madrasa in Medina.

The date range of the file is 1931-38 but the majority of the material dates from 1936-38.

The file includes a divider which gives a list of correspondence references contained in the file by year. This is placed at the back of the correspondence.



Previous File :
Next File :

IOR: L/P/PS/12/2148

No. 6
File 75

POLITICAL (EXTERNAL) DEPARTMENT.
COLLECTION.

GENERAL HEADING { Arabia

SUB-HEAD { Institutions in Arabia receiving financial support from H. E. H. the Nizam of Hyderabad.

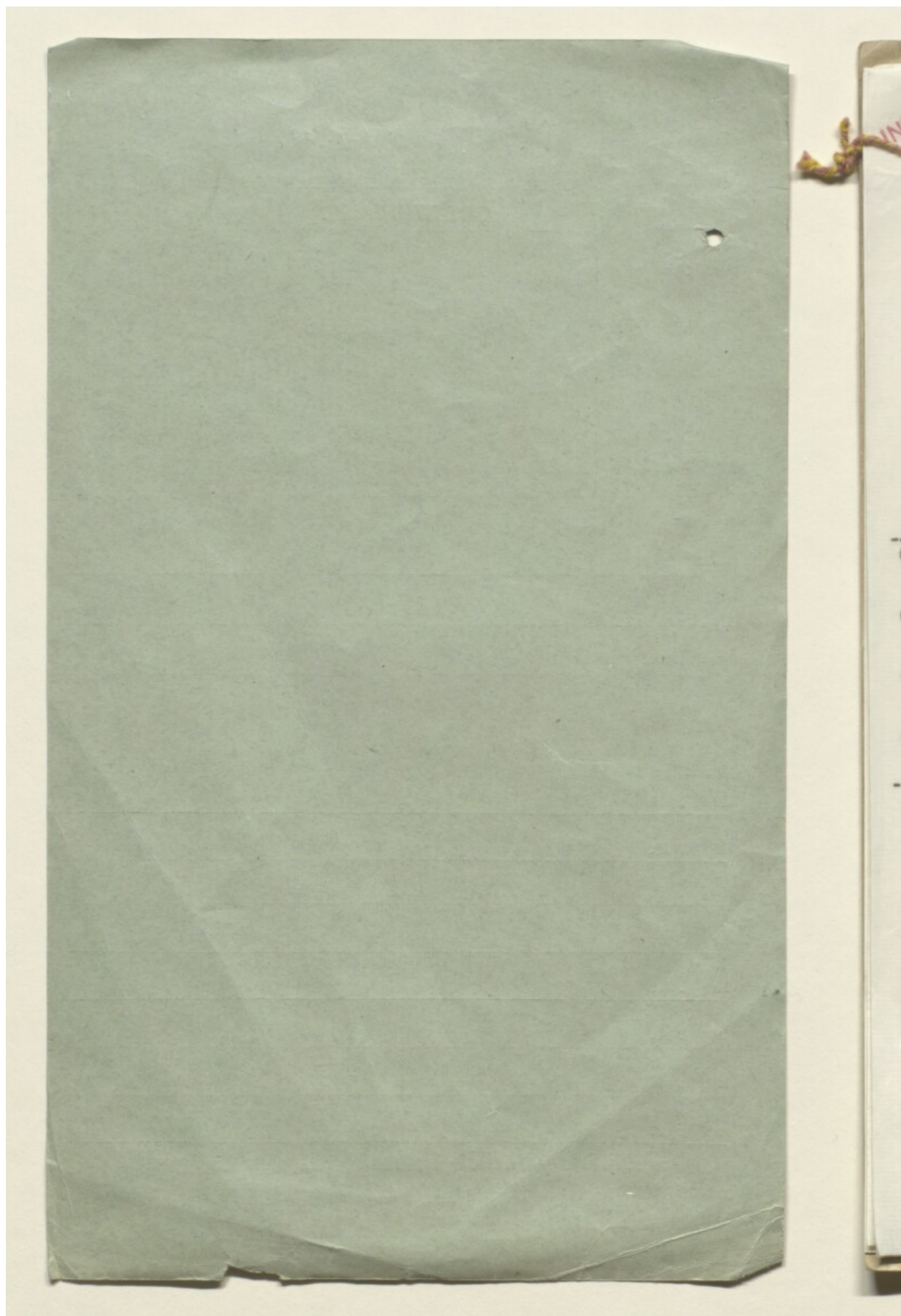
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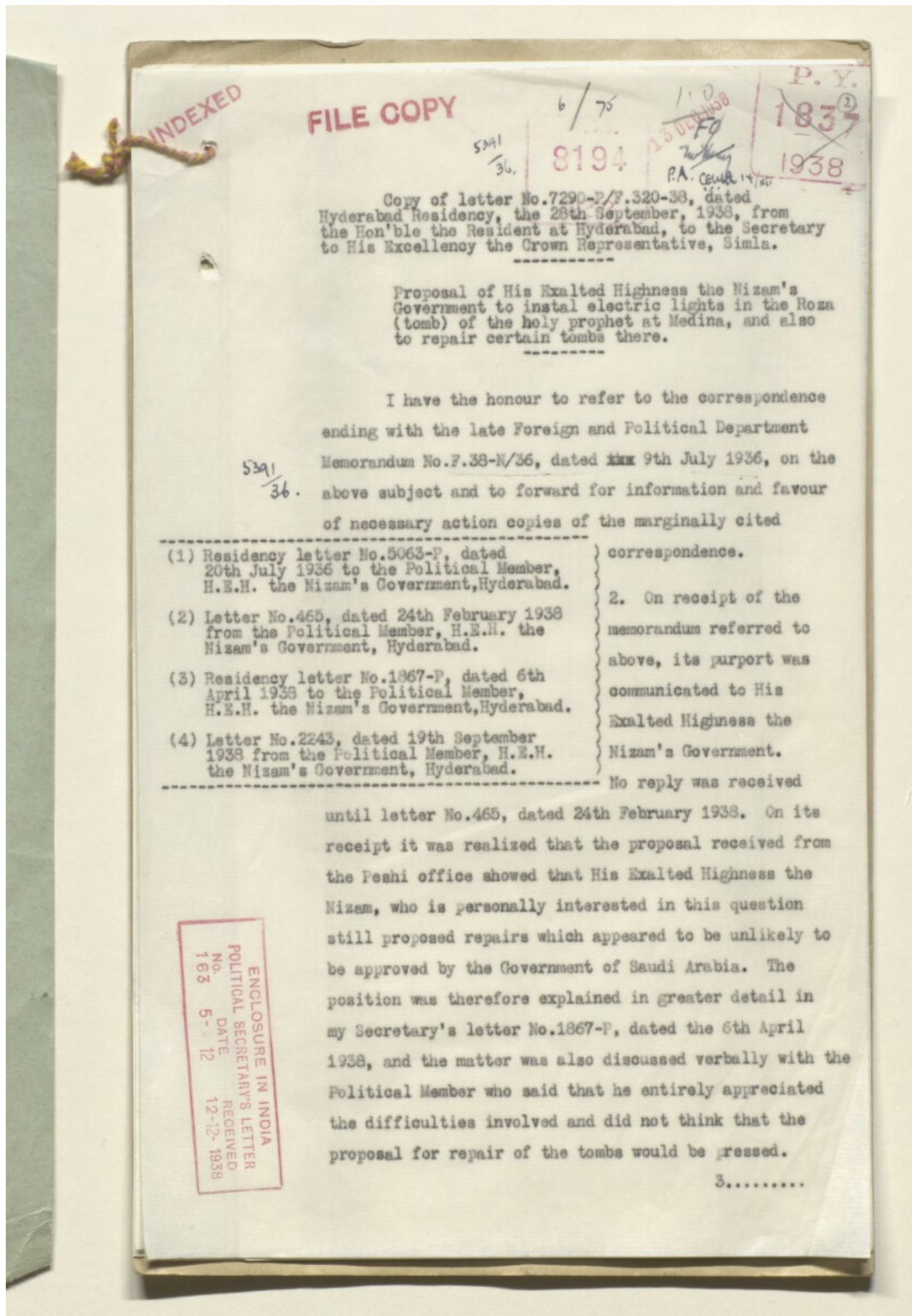
This File contains the following papers :—

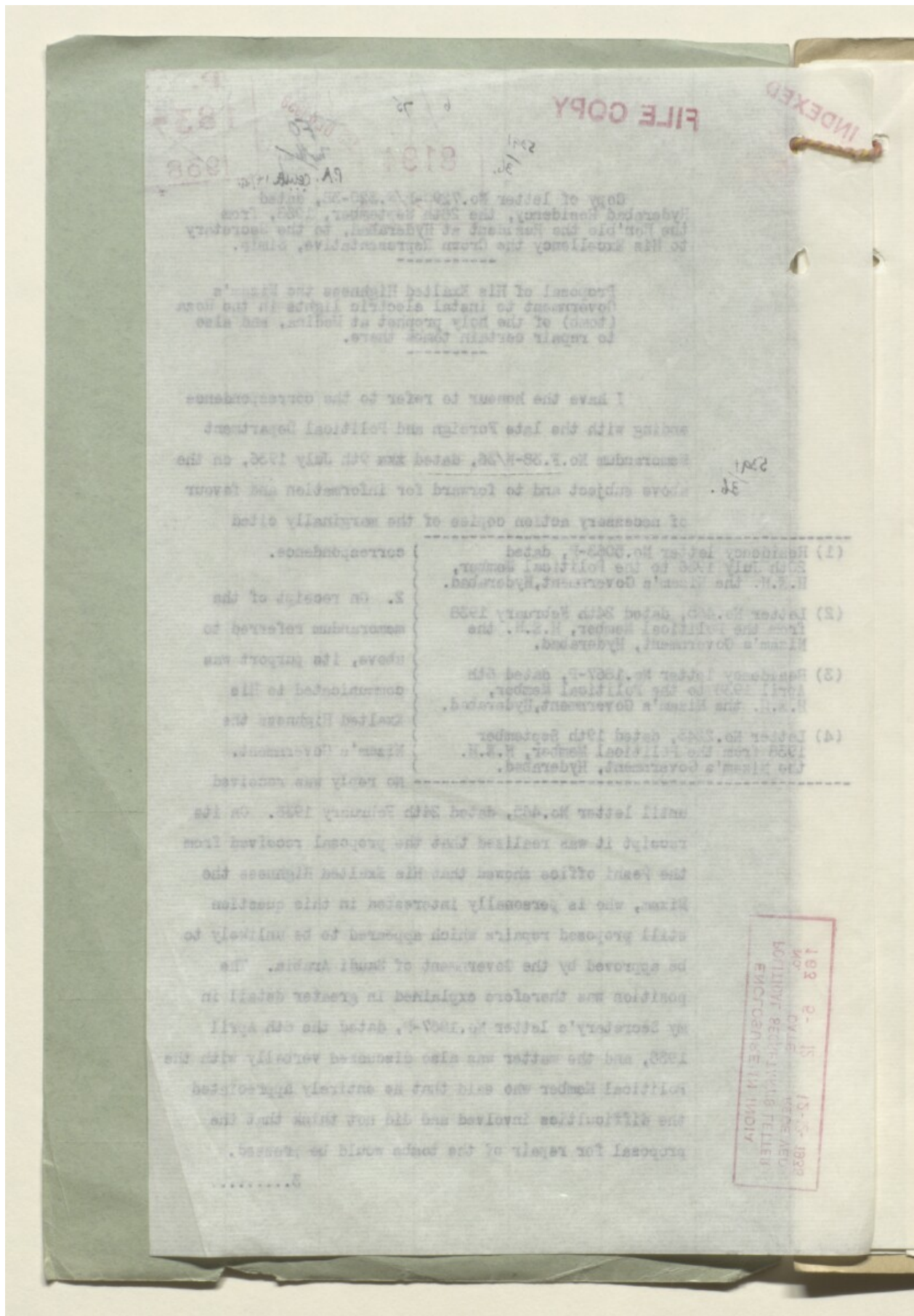
YEAR.	P.Z.	6456	1936 P.Z.	988	2011	2187	2652	4308	
1931	P.Z.	6456	1936	P.Z.	988	2011	2187	2652	4308
1936	P.Z.	4596	5391	1938	P.Z.	8194			
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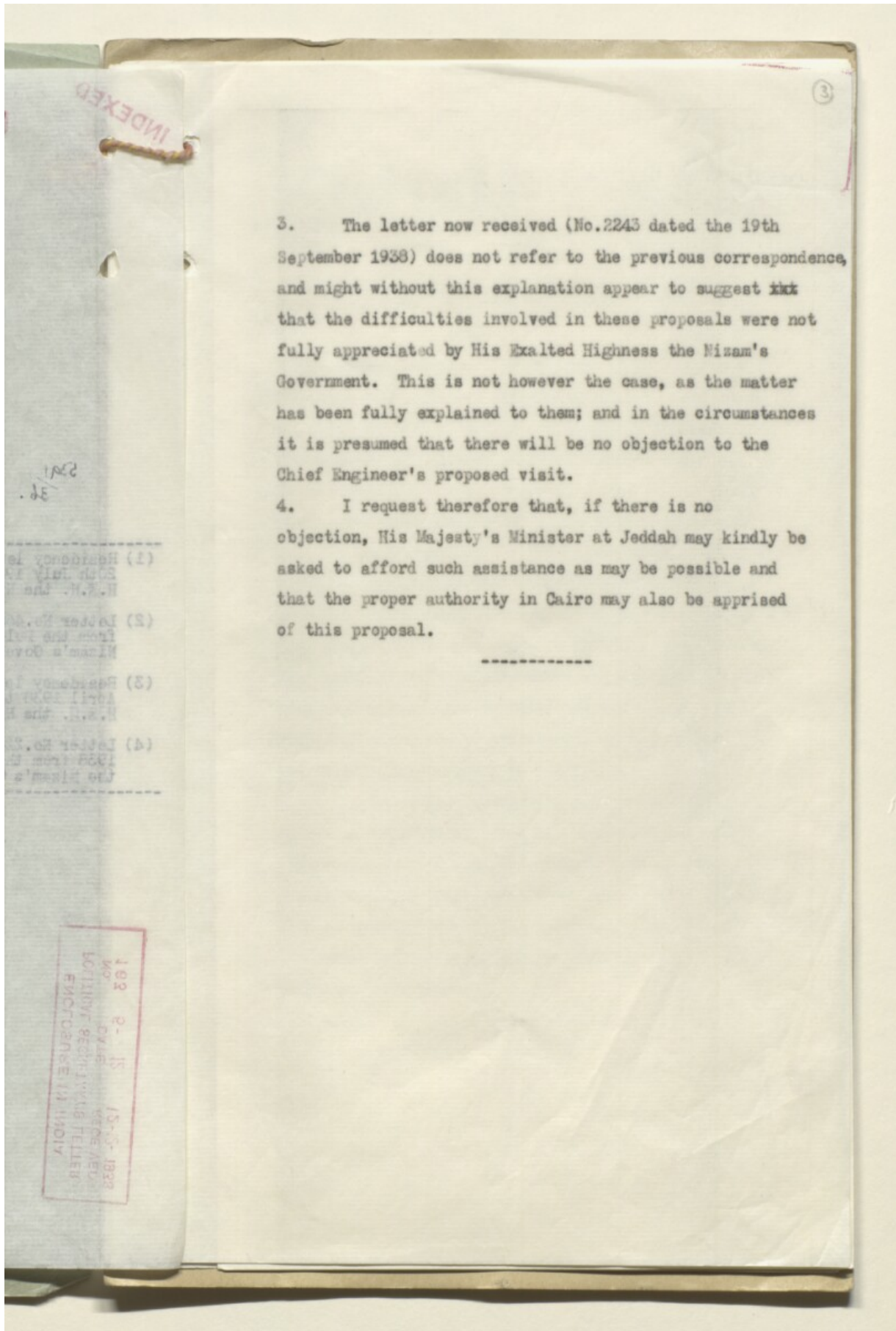
Papers may be removed from or placed within this File only by the Political Registry.

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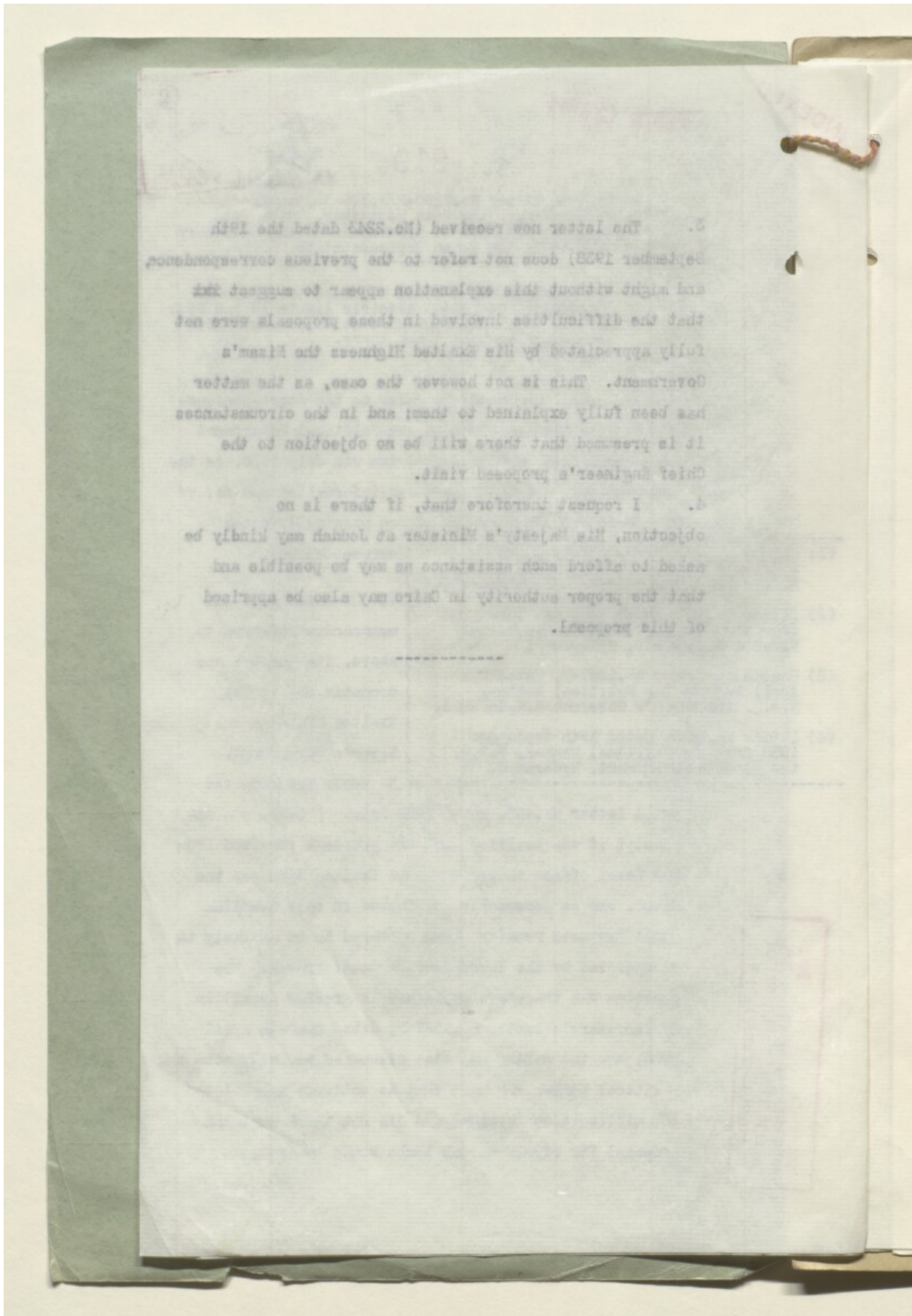


3. The letter now received (No.2243 dated the 19th September 1938) does not refer to the previous correspondence, and might without this explanation appear to suggest ~~xxx~~ that the difficulties involved in these proposals were not fully appreciated by His Exalted Highness the Nizam's Government. This is not however the case, as the matter has been fully explained to them; and in the circumstances it is presumed that there will be no objection to the Chief Engineer's proposed visit.

4. I request therefore that, if there is no objection, His Majesty's Minister at Jeddah may kindly be asked to afford such assistance as may be possible and that the proper authority in Cairo may also be apprised of this proposal.

(1) Hyderabad
to the Nizam
1938
1938
1938
(2) Hyderabad
to the Nizam
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(3) Hyderabad
to the Nizam
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(4) Hyderabad
to the Nizam
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1938
1938

103
No. 2-15
DATE 15-3-1938
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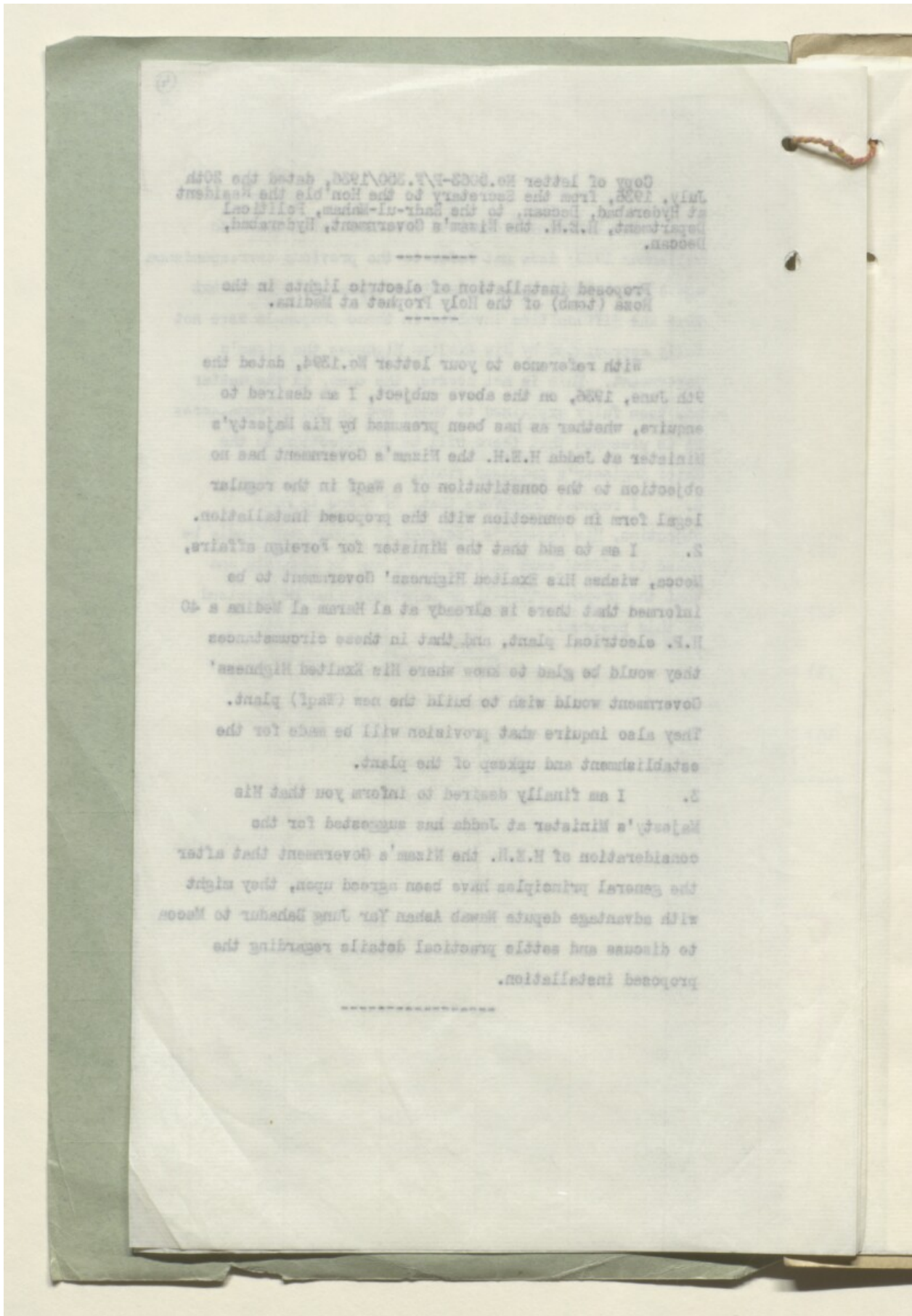
Copy of letter No.5063-P/F.350/1936, dated the 20th July, 1936, from the Secretary to the Hon'ble the Resident at Hyderabad, Deccan, to the Sadr-ul-Maham, Political Department, H.E.H. the Nizam's Government, Hyderabad, Deccan.

Proposed installation of electric lights in the Roza (tomb) of the Holy Prophet at Medina.

With reference to your letter No.1394, dated the 9th June, 1936, on the above subject, I am desired to enquire, whether as has been presumed by His Majesty's Minister at Jedda H.E.H. the Nizam's Government has no objection to the constitution of a Waqf in the regular legal form in connection with the proposed installation.

2. I am to add that the Minister for Foreign affairs, Mecca, wishes His Exalted Highness' Government to be informed that there is already at al Haram al Medina a 40 H.P. electrical plant, and that in these circumstances they would be glad to know where His Exalted Highness' Government would wish to build the new (Waqf) plant. They also inquire what provision will be made for the establishment and upkeep of the plant.

3. I am finally desired to inform you that His Majesty's Minister at Jedda has suggested for the consideration of H.E.H. the Nizam's Government that after the general principles have been agreed upon, they might with advantage depute Nawab Ashan Yar Jung Bahadur to Mecca to discuss and settle practical details regarding the proposed installation.



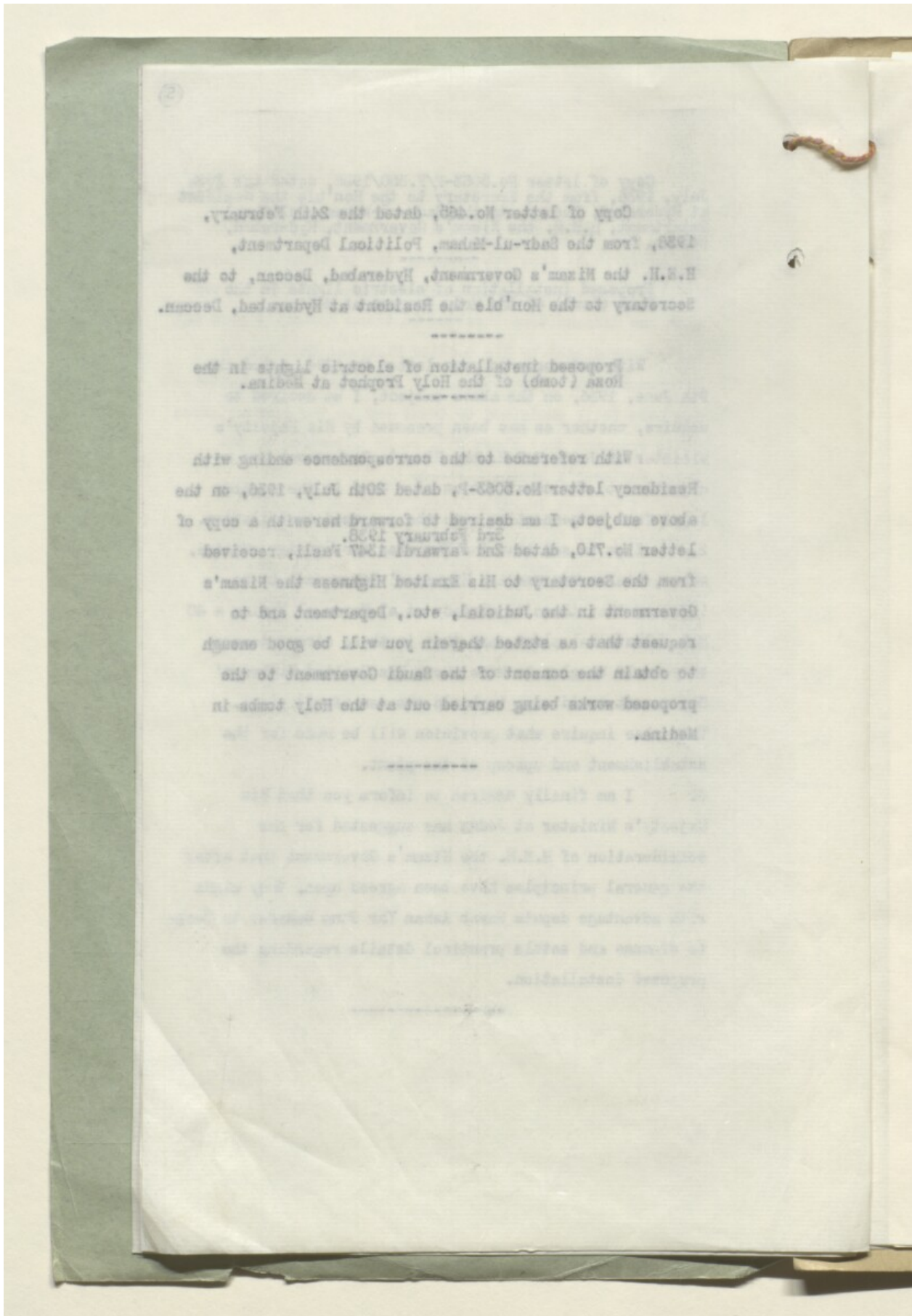


5

Copy of letter No.465, dated the 24th February, 1938, from the Sadr-ul-Maham, Political Department, H.E.H. the Nizam's Government, Hyderabad, Deccan, to the Secretary to the Hon'ble the Resident at Hyderabad, Deccan.

Proposed installation of electric lights in the Roza (tomb) of the Holy Prophet at Medina.

With reference to the correspondence ending with Residency letter No.5063-P, dated 20th July, 1936, on the above subject, I am desired to forward herewith a copy of letter No.710, dated ^{3rd February 1938.} 2nd Farwardi 1347 Fasli, received from the Secretary to His Exalted Highness the Nizam's Government in the Judicial, etc., Department and to request that as stated therein you will be good enough to obtain the consent of the Saudi Government to the proposed works being carried out at the Holy tombs in Medina.





Translation of a letter No.710, dated 3rd
February 1938 from the Secretary to H.E.H. the Nizam's
Government in the Judicial, Police and General
Departments (Religious Section) to the Secretary
to H.E.H. the Nizam's Government in the Political
Department.

Installation of electric lights at Medina.

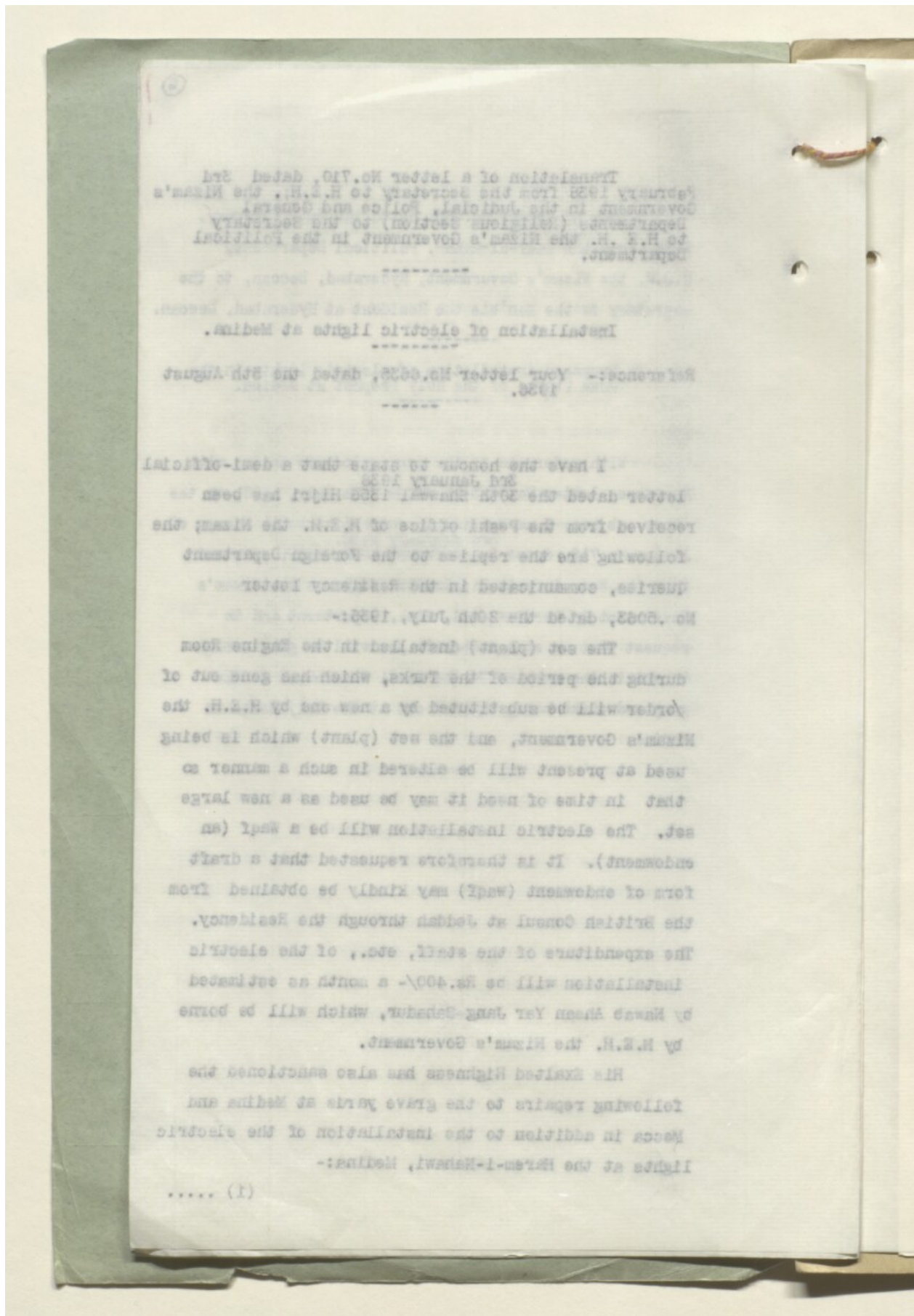
Reference:- Your letter No.6635, dated the 5th August
1936.

I have the honour to state that a demi-official
3rd January 1938
letter dated the 30th Shawwal 1356 Hijri has been
received from the Peshi office of H.E.H. the Nizam; the
following are the replies to the Foreign Department
queries, communicated in the Reskiency letter
No .5063, dated the 20th July, 1936:-

The set (plant) installed in the Engine Room
during the period of the Turks, which has gone out of
order will be substituted by a new one by H.E.H. the
Nizam's Government, and the set (plant) which is being
used at present will be altered in such a manner so
that in time of need it may be used as a new large
set. The electric installation will be a Waqf (an
endowment). It is therefore requested that a draft
form of endowment (waqf) may kindly be obtained from
the British Consul at Jeddah through the Residency.
The expenditure of the staff, etc., of the electric
installation will be Rs.400/- a month as estimated
by Nawab Ahsan Yar Jang Bahadur, which will be borne
by H.E.H. the Nizam's Government.

His Exalted Highness has also sanctioned the
following repairs to the grave yards at Medina and
Mecca in addition to the installation of the electric
lights at the Harem-i-Nahawi, Medina:-

(1)

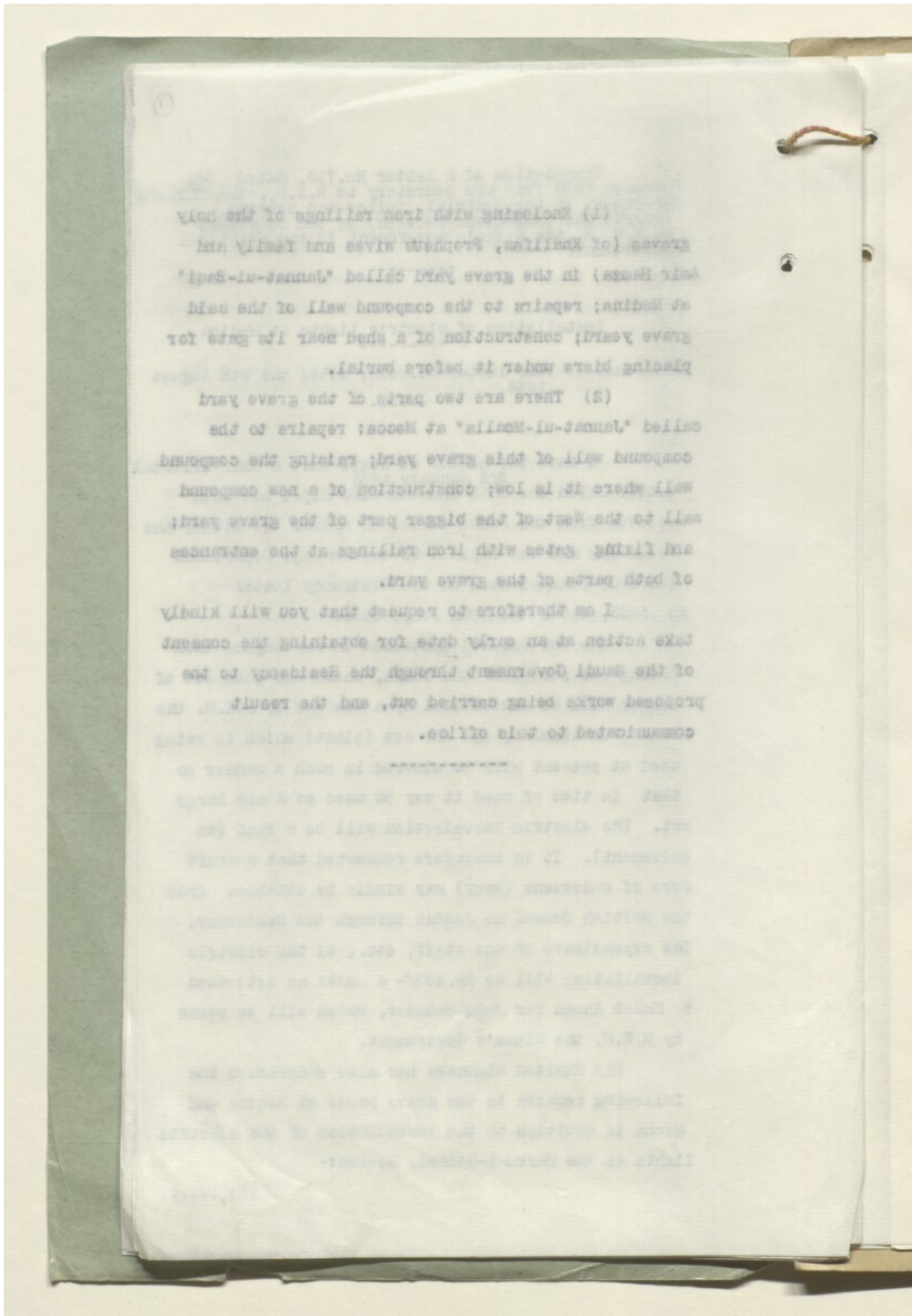




(1) Enclosing with iron railings of the holy graves (of Khalifas, Prophets wives and family and Amir Hamza) in the grave yard called "Jannat-ul-Baqi" at Medina; repairs to the compound wall of the said grave yard; construction of a shed near its gate for placing biers under it before burial.

(2) There are two parts of the grave yard called "Jannat-ul-Moalla" at Mecca: repairs to the compound wall of this grave yard; raising the compound wall where it is low; construction of a new compound wall to the West of the bigger part of the grave yard; and fixing gates with iron railings at the entrances of both parts of the grave yard.

I am therefore to request that you will kindly take action at an early date for obtaining the consent of the Saudi Government through the Residency to the proposed works being carried out, and the result communicated to this office.





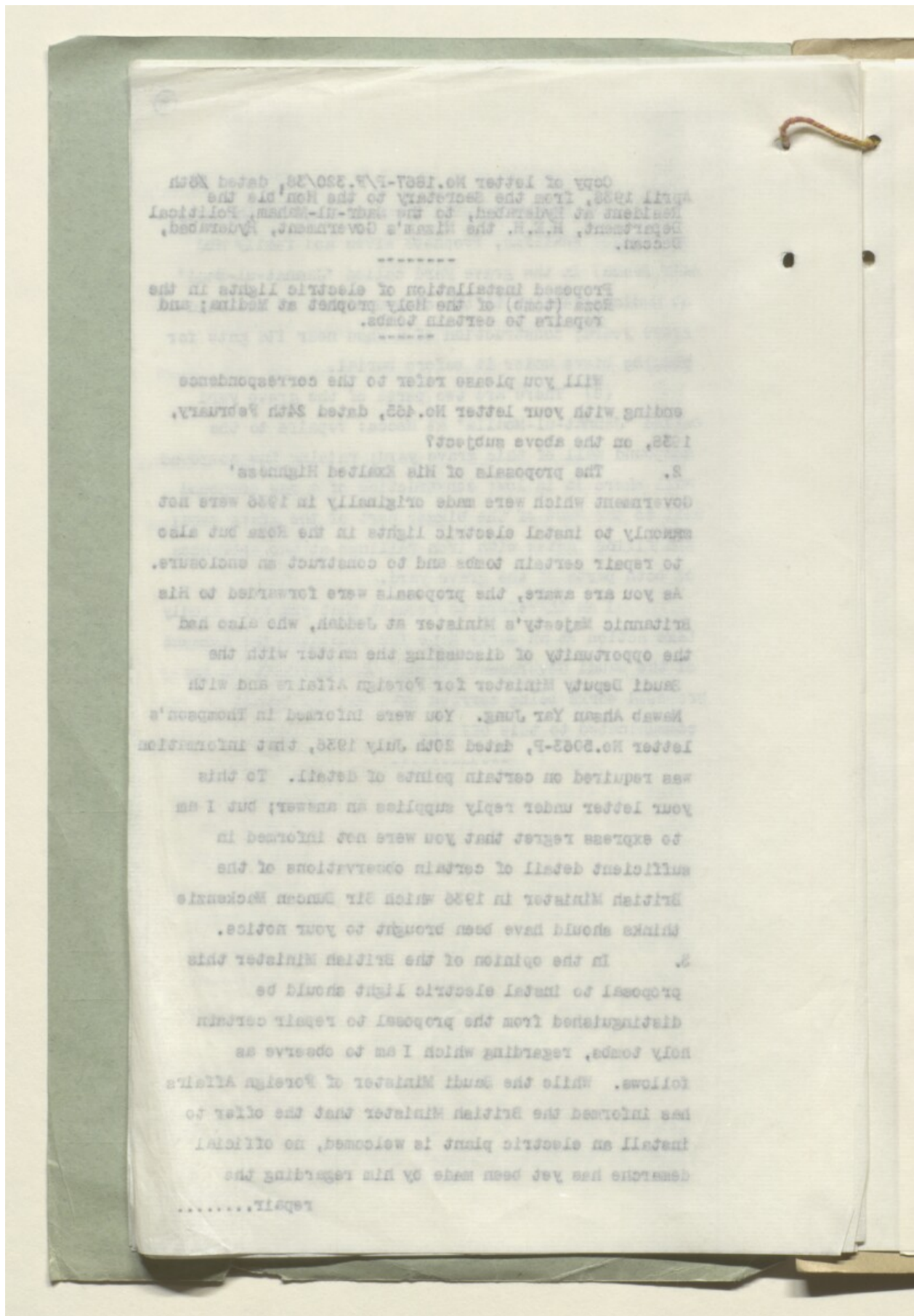
Copy of letter No.1867-P/F.320/38, dated 26th
April 1936, from the Secretary to the Hon'ble the
Resident at Hyderabad, to the Sadr-ul-Maham, Political
Department, H.E.H. the Nizam's Government, Hyderabad,
Deccan.

Proposed installation of electric lights in the
Roza (tomb) of the Holy prophet at Medina; and
repairs to certain tombs.

Will you please refer to the correspondence
ending with your letter No.465, dated 24th February,
1936, on the above subject?

2. The proposals of His Exalted Highness'
Government which were made originally in 1936 were not
only to instal electric lights in the Roza but also
to repair certain tombs and to construct an enclosure.
As you are aware, the proposals were forwarded to His
Britannic Majesty's Minister at Jeddah, who also had
the opportunity of discussing the matter with the
Saudi Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs and with
Nawab Ahsan Yar Jung. You were informed in Thompson's
letter No.5063-P, dated 20th July 1936, that information
was required on certain points of detail. To this
your letter under reply supplies an answer; but I am
to express regret that you were not informed in
sufficient detail of certain observations of the
British Minister in 1936 which Sir Duncan Mackenzie
thinks should have been brought to your notice.

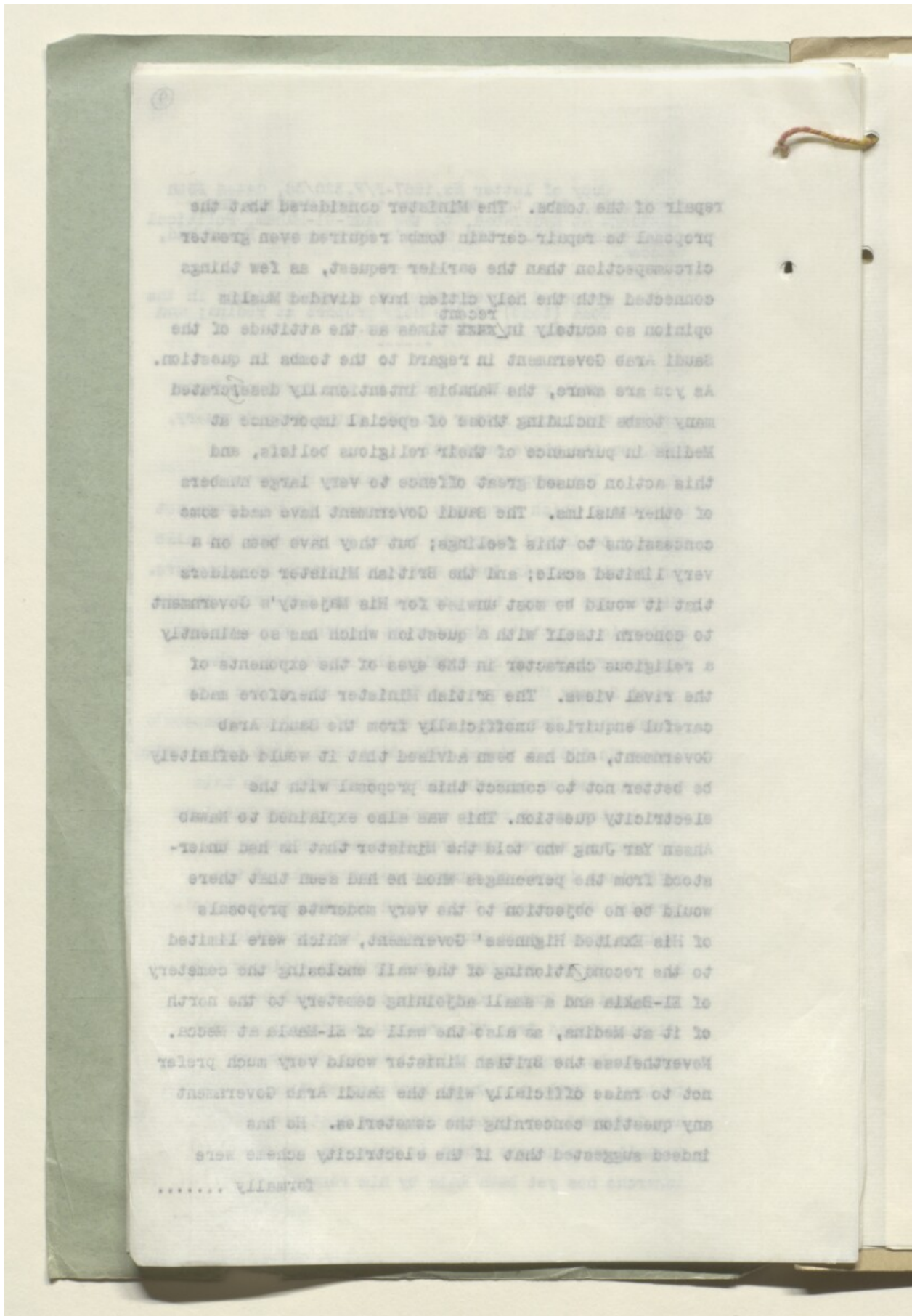
3. In the opinion of the British Minister this
proposal to instal electric light should be
distinguished from the proposal to repair certain
holy tombs, regarding which I am to observe as
follows. While the Saudi Minister of Foreign Affairs
has informed the British Minister that the offer to
install an electric plant is welcomed, no official
demarche has yet been made by him regarding the
repair.....





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repair of the tombs. The Minister considered that the proposal to repair certain tombs required even greater circumspection than the earlier request, as few things connected with the holy cities have divided Muslim opinion so acutely in ~~xxxx~~^{recent} times as the attitude of the Saudi Arab Government in regard to the tombs in question. As you are aware, the Wahabis intentionally desecrated many tombs including those of special importance at Medina in pursuance of their religious beliefs, and this action caused great offence to very large numbers of other Muslims. The Saudi Government have made some concessions to this feelings; but they have been on a very limited scale; and the British Minister considers that it would be most unwise for His Majesty's Government to concern itself with a question which has so eminently a religious character in the eyes of the exponents of the rival views. The British Minister therefore made careful enquiries unofficially from the Saudi Arab Government, and has been advised that it would definitely be better not to connect this proposal with the electricity question. This was also explained to Nawab Ahsan Yar Jung who told the Minister that he had understood from the personages whom he had seen that there would be no objection to the very moderate proposals of His Exalted Highness' Government, which were limited to the recond^{itioning} of the wall enclosing the cemetery of El-Bakia and a small adjoining cemetery to the north of it at Medina, as also the wall of El-Maala at Mecca. Nevertheless the British Minister would very much prefer not to raise officially with the Saudi Arab Government any question concerning the cemeteries. He has indeed suggested that if the electricity scheme were formally



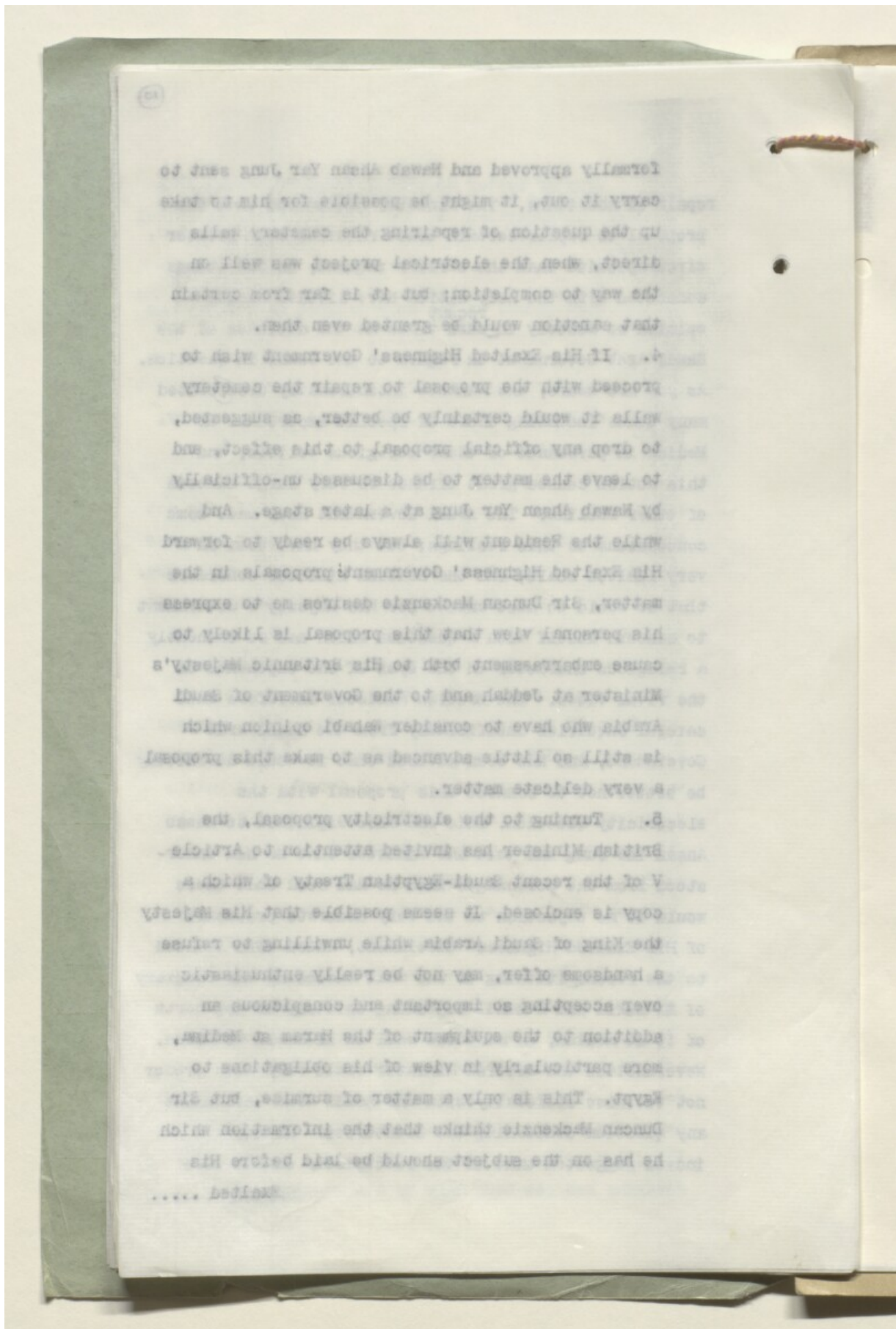


formally approved and Nawab Ahsan Yar Jung sent to carry it out, it might be possible for him to take up the question of repairing the cemetery walls direct, when the electrical project was well on the way to completion; but it is far from certain that sanction would be granted even then.

4. If His Exalted Highness' Government wish to proceed with the proposal to repair the cemetery walls it would certainly be better, as suggested, to drop any official proposal to this effect, and to leave the matter to be discussed un-officially by Nawab Ahsan Yar Jung at a later stage. And while the Resident will always be ready to forward His Exalted Highness' Government's proposals in the matter, Sir Duncan Mackenzie desires me to express his personal view that this proposal is likely to cause embarrassment both to His Britannic Majesty's Minister at Jeddah and to the Government of Saudi Arabia who have to consider Wahabi opinion which is still so little advanced as to make this proposal a very delicate matter.

5. Turning to the electricity proposal, the British Minister has invited attention to Article V of the recent Saudi-Egyptian Treaty of which a copy is enclosed. It seems possible that His Majesty the King of Saudi Arabia while unwilling to refuse a handsome offer, may not be really enthusiastic over accepting so important and conspicuous an addition to the equipment of the Haram at Medina, more particularly in view of his obligations to Egypt. This is only a matter of surmise, but Sir Duncan Mackenzie thinks that the information which he has on the subject should be laid before His

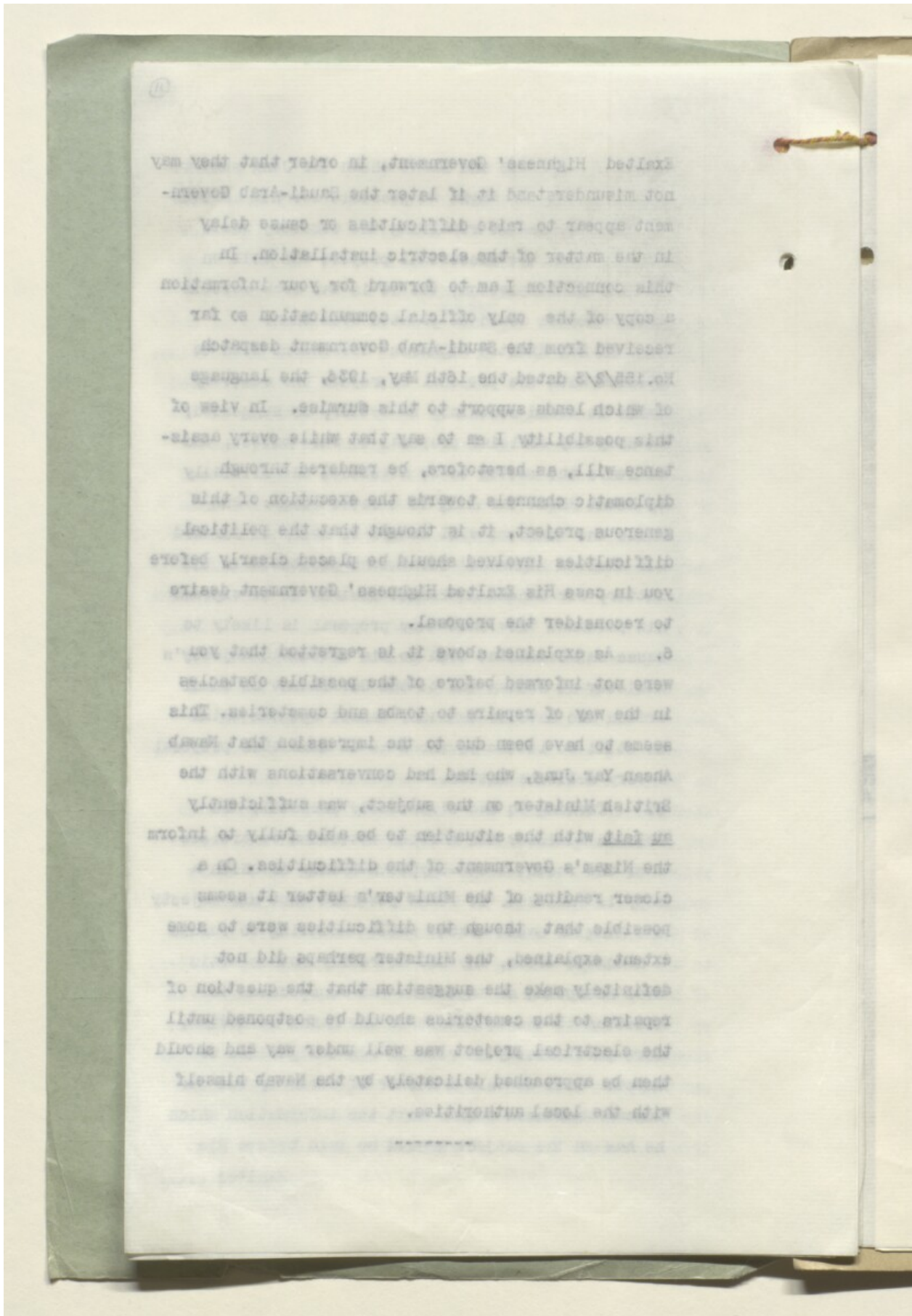
Exalted





Exalted Highness' Government, in order that they may not misunderstand it if later the Saudi-Arab Government appear to raise difficulties or cause delay in the matter of the electric installation. In this connection I am to forward for your information a copy of the only official communication so far received from the Saudi-Arab Government despatch No.155/2/3 dated the 16th May, 1936, the language of which lends support to this surmise. In view of this possibility I am to say that while every assistance will, as heretofore, be rendered through diplomatic channels towards the execution of this generous project, it is thought that the political difficulties involved should be placed clearly before you in case His Exalted Highness' Government desire to reconsider the proposal.

6. As explained above it is regretted that you were not informed before of the possible obstacles in the way of repairs to tombs and cemeteries. This seems to have been due to the impression that Nawab Ahsan Yar Jung, who had had conversations with the British Minister on the subject, was sufficiently au fait with the situation to be able fully to inform the Nizam's Government of the difficulties. On a closer reading of the Minister's letter it seems possible that though the difficulties were to some extent explained, the Minister perhaps did not definitely make the suggestion that the question of repairs to the cemeteries should be postponed until the electrical project was well under way and should then be approached delicately by the Nawab himself with the local authorities.





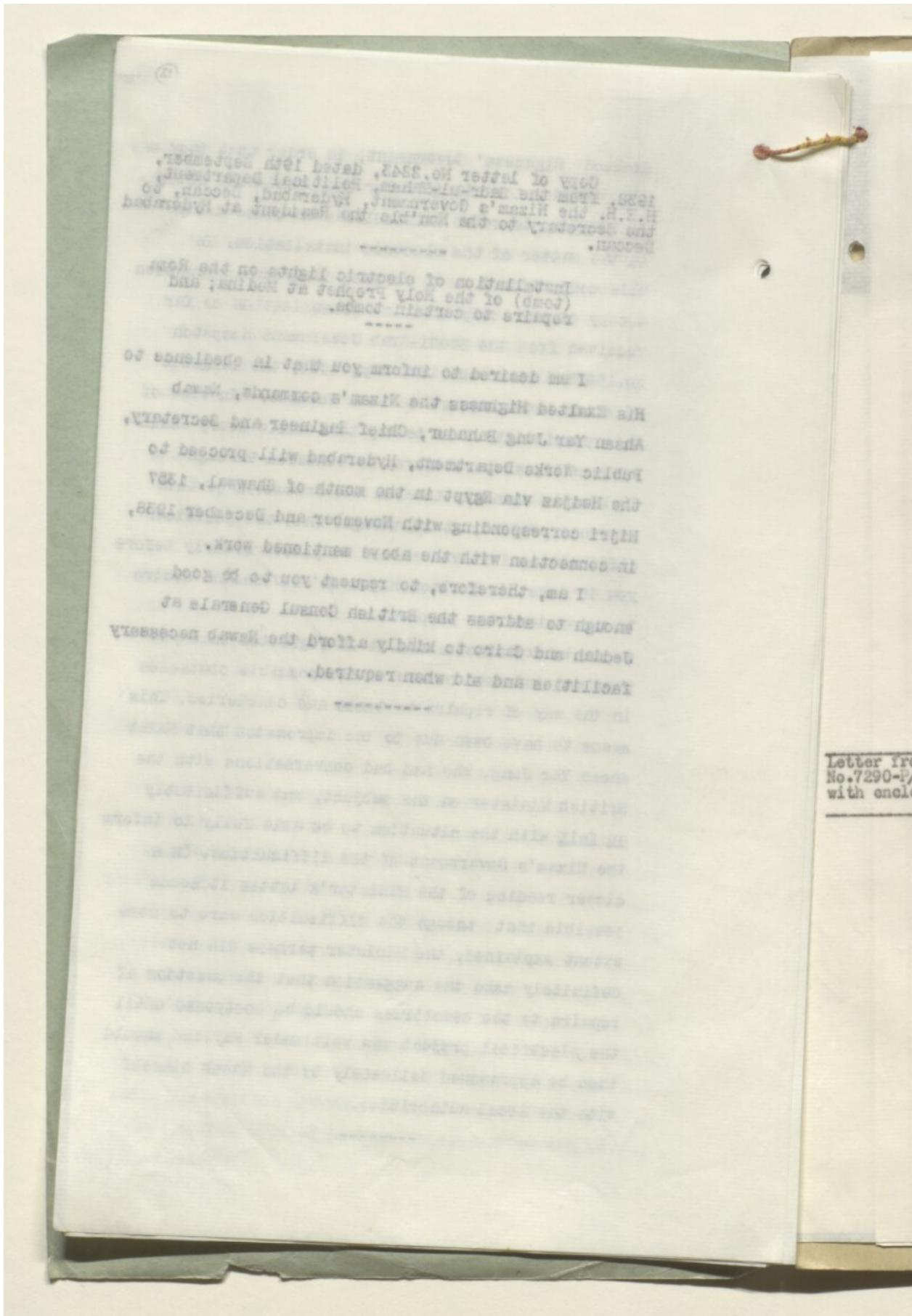
12

Copy of letter No.2243, dated 19th September, 1938, from the Sadr-ul-Maham, Political Department, H.E.H. the Nizam's Government, Hyderabad, Deccan, to the Secretary to the Hon'ble the Resident at Hyderabad Deccan.

Installation of electric lights on the Rosa (tomb) of the Holy Prophet at Medina; and repairs to certain tombs.

I am desired to inform you that in obedience to His Exalted Highness the Nizam's commands, Nawab Ahsan Yar Jung Bahadur, Chief Engineer and Secretary, Public Works Department, Hyderabad will proceed to the Hedjaz via Egypt in the month of Shawwal, 1357 Hijri corresponding with November and December 1938, in connection with the above mentioned work.

I am, therefore, to request you to be good enough to address the British Consul Generals at Jeddah and Cairo to kindly afford the Nawab necessary facilities and aid when required.



Letter from
No. 7290-P,
with encl.



No.F.641-P/38.

From

The Secretary to His Excellency
the Crown Representative,

To

His Britannic Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary and
Minister Plenipotentiary in the Dominions of
His Majesty the King of Sa'udi Arabia,

J E D D A.

Dated New Delhi, the 5th December 1938.

Proposal of His Exalted Highness the Nizam's
Government to instal electric lights in the
Haram at Medina and also to repair certain
tombs there.

Sir,

With reference to the correspondence copies of which
were transmitted with the weekly letter from the Foreign
Secretary to the Government of India No.26-J, dated the
15th August 1936, I am directed to forward for information

Letter from the Hon'ble the Resident at Hyderabad,
No.7290-P/F.320-38, dated the 28th September 1938,
with enclosures.

a copy of the
communication
cited in the margin.

I am to request that, if there is no objection, such
assistance as may be possible may kindly be afforded to
Nawab Ahsan Yar Jung Bahadur during his forthcoming visit
to Hedjaz via Egypt.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Sd/- C.F. Hancock,
for Secretary to His Excellency
the Crown Representative.

for Secretary to His Excellency
the Crown Representative.
Sd/- C.P. Haneook



No.F.641-P/38.

From

The Secretary to His Excellency
the Crown Representative,

To

His Majesty's Ambassador,
CAIRO.

Dated New Delhi, the 5th December 1938.

Proposal of His Exalted Highness the Nizam's
Government to instal electric lights in the
Haram at Medina and also to repair certain
tombs there.

Your Excellency,

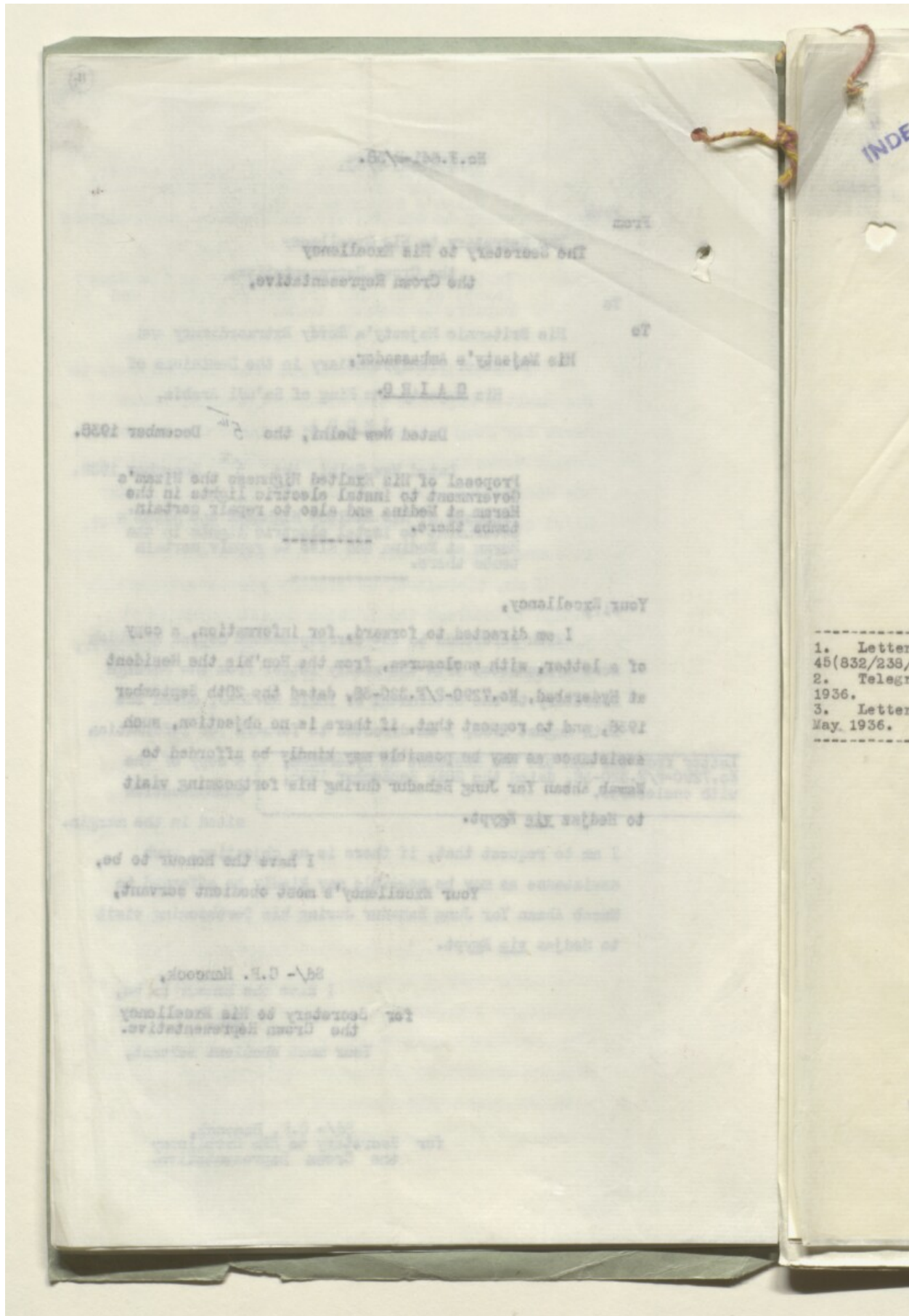
I am directed to forward, for information, a copy
of a letter, with enclosures, from the Hon'ble the Resident
at Hyderabad, No.7290-P/F.380-38, dated the 28th September
1938, and to request that, if there is no objection, such
assistance as may be possible may kindly be afforded to
Nawab Ahsan Yar Jung Bahadur during his forthcoming visit
to Hedjaz via Egypt.

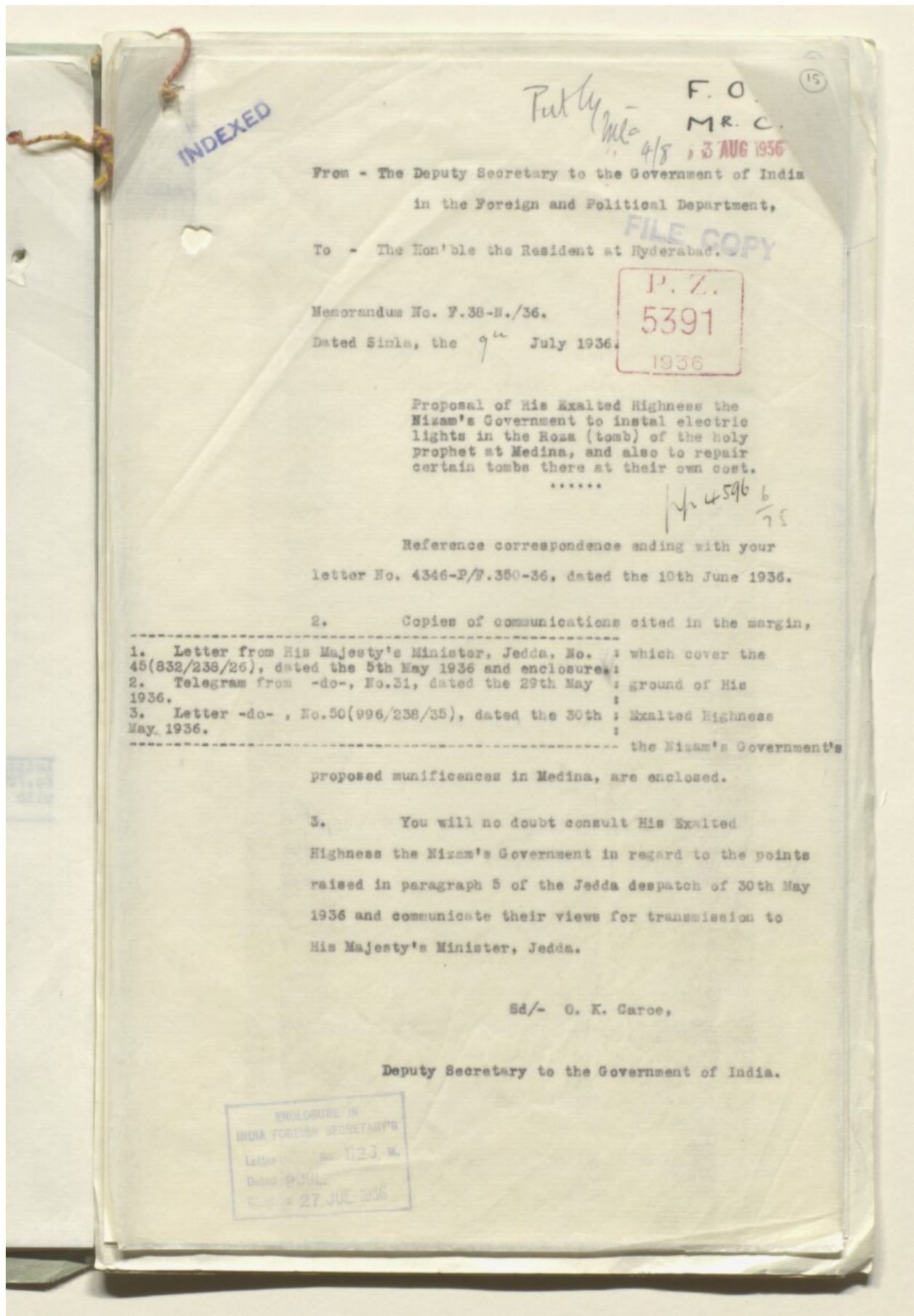
I have the honour to be,

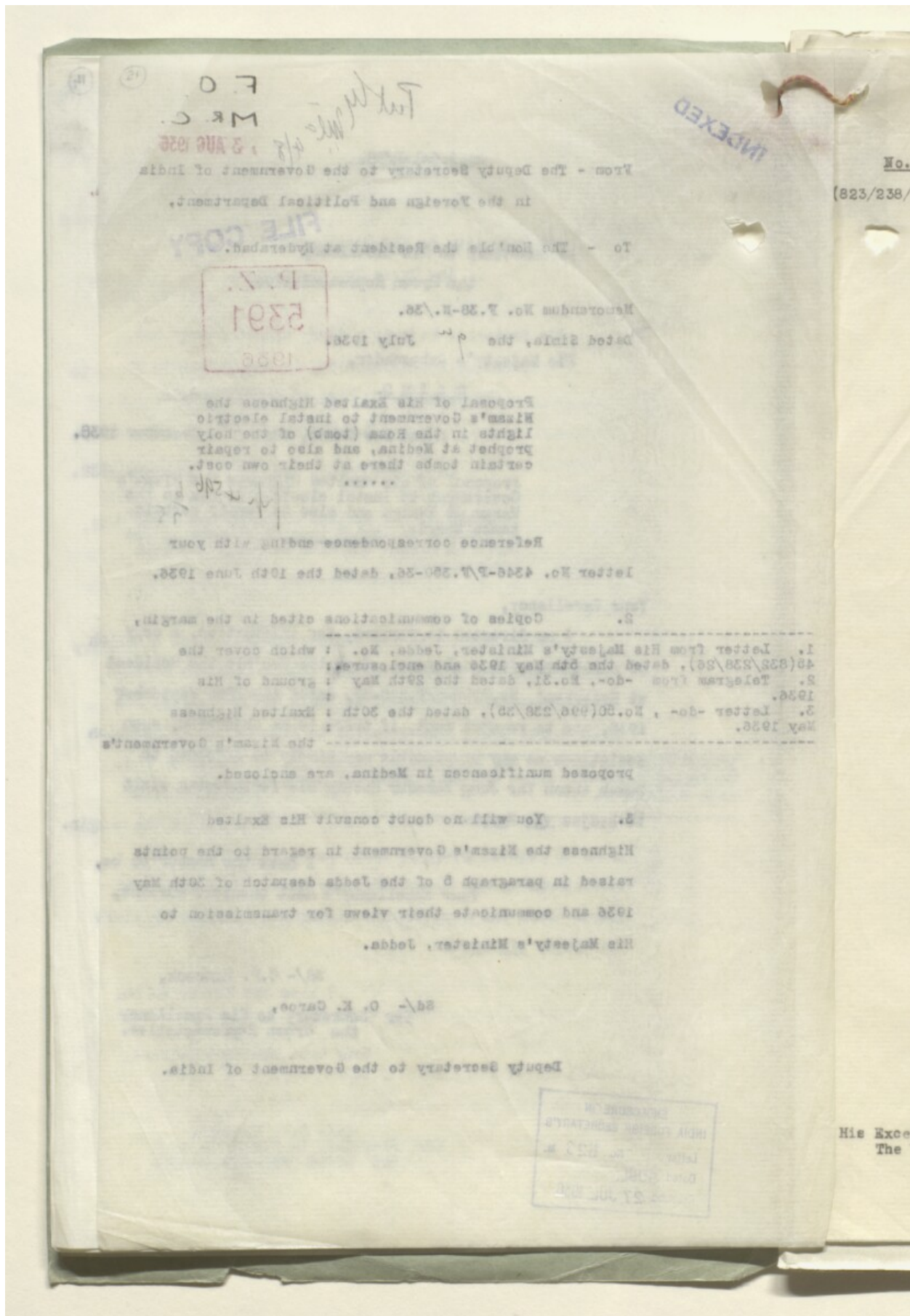
Your Excellency's most obedient servant,

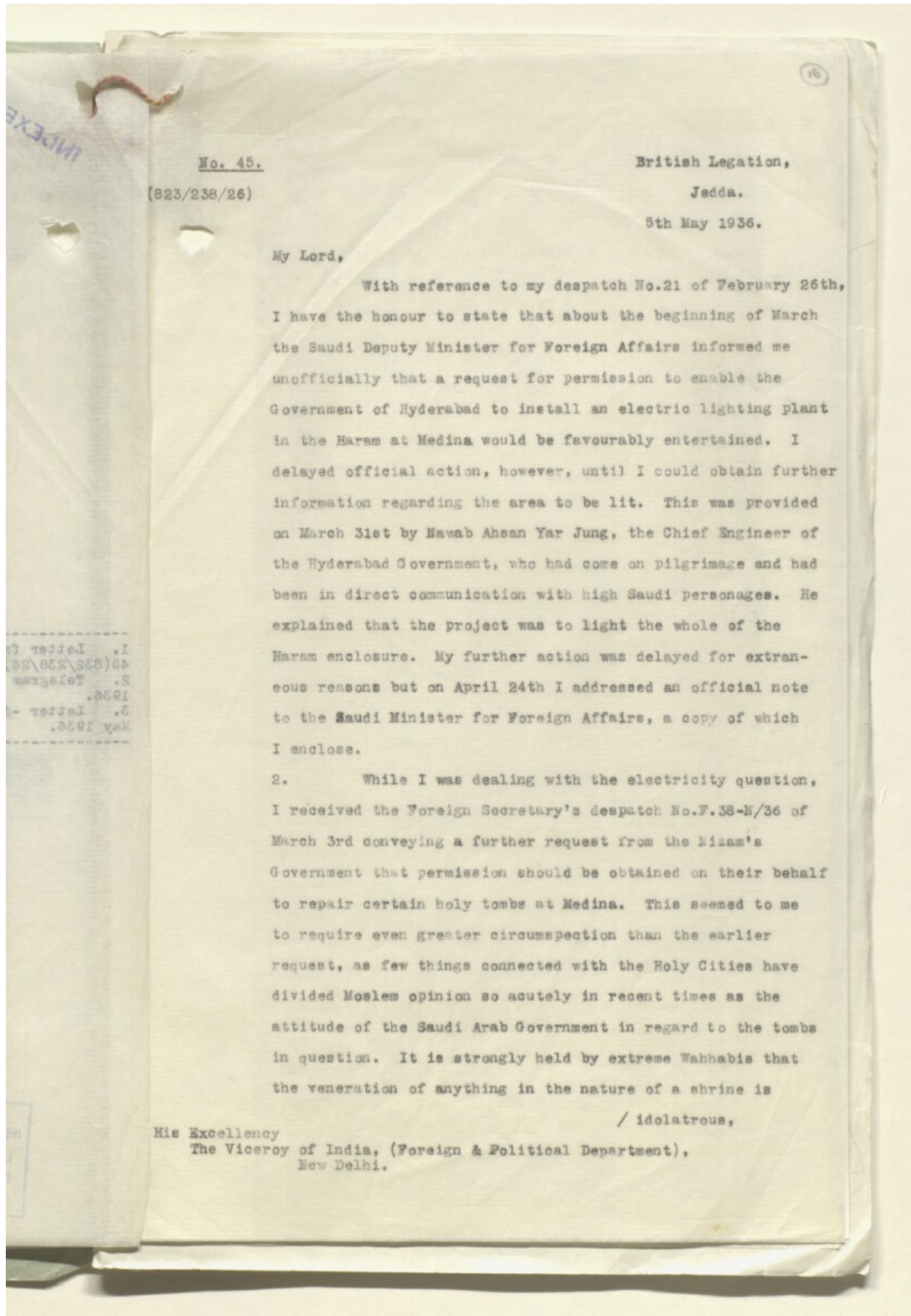
Sd/- C.P. Hancock,

for Secretary to His Excellency
the Crown Representative.









No. 45.
(823/238/26)

British Legation,
Jedda.
5th May 1936.

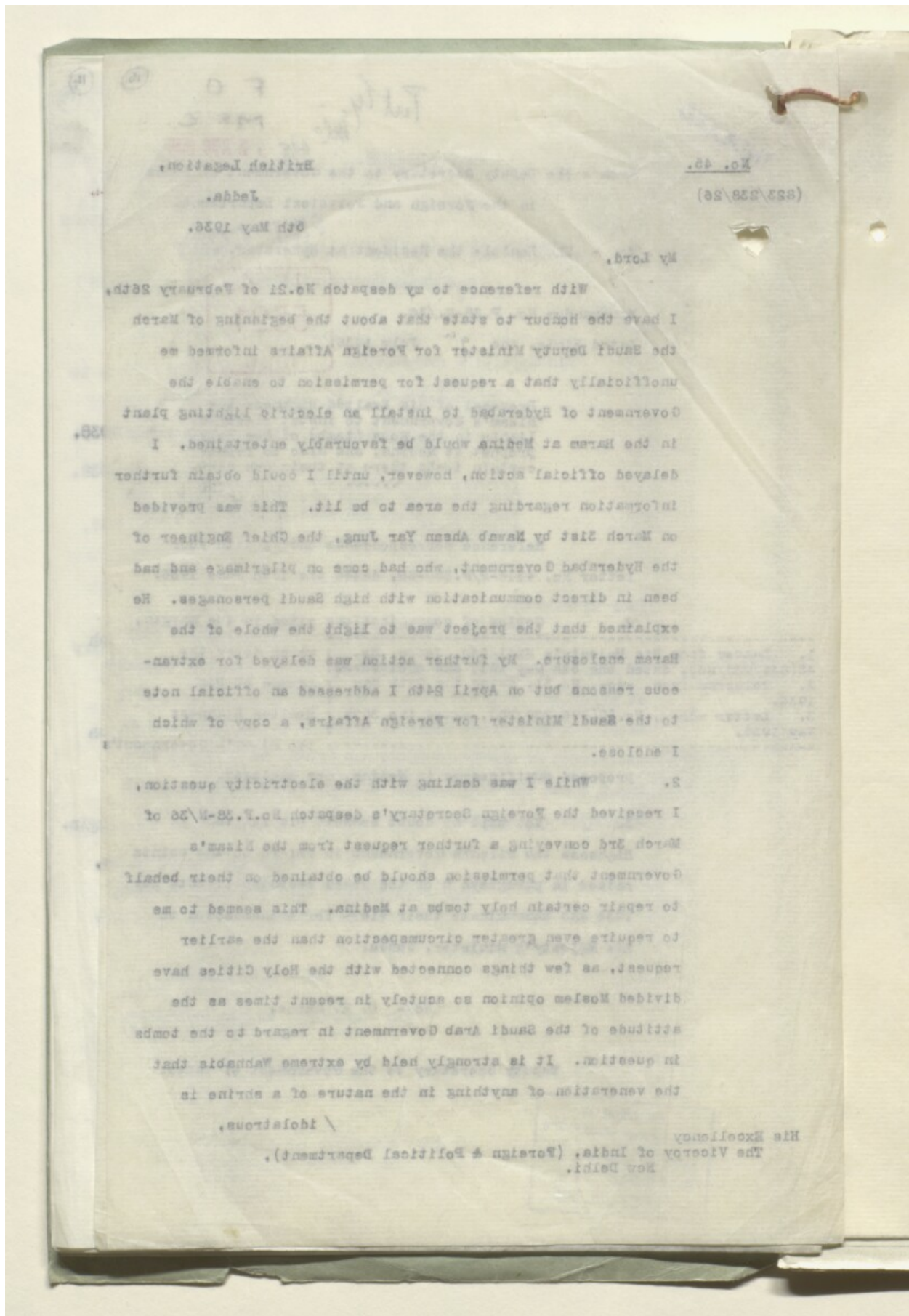
My Lord,

With reference to my despatch No.21 of February 26th, I have the honour to state that about the beginning of March the Saudi Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs informed me unofficially that a request for permission to enable the Government of Hyderabad to install an electric lighting plant in the Haram at Medina would be favourably entertained. I delayed official action, however, until I could obtain further information regarding the area to be lit. This was provided on March 31st by Nawab Ahsan Yar Jung, the Chief Engineer of the Hyderabad Government, who had come on pilgrimage and had been in direct communication with high Saudi personages. He explained that the project was to light the whole of the Haram enclosure. My further action was delayed for extraneous reasons but on April 24th I addressed an official note to the Saudi Minister for Foreign Affairs, a copy of which I enclose.

2. While I was dealing with the electricity question, I received the Foreign Secretary's despatch No.F.38-N/36 of March 3rd conveying a further request from the Nizam's Government that permission should be obtained on their behalf to repair certain holy tombs at Medina. This seemed to me to require even greater circumspection than the earlier request, as few things connected with the Holy Cities have divided Moslem opinion so acutely in recent times as the attitude of the Saudi Arab Government in regard to the tombs in question. It is strongly held by extreme Wahhabis that the veneration of anything in the nature of a shrine is

/ idolatrous,

His Excellency
The Viceroy of India, (Foreign & Political Department),
New Delhi.





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(33/120/33)

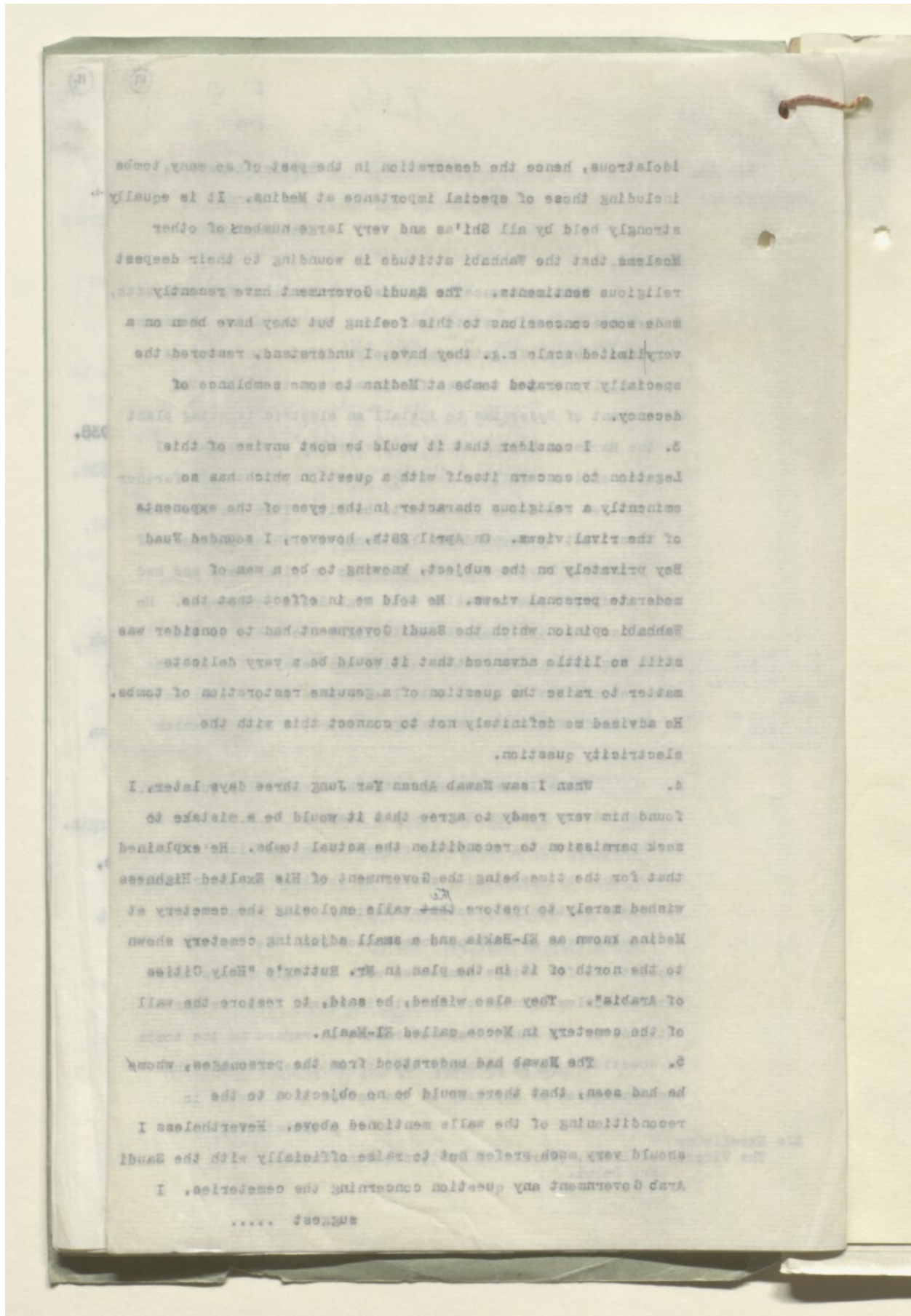
idolatrous, hence the desecration in the past of so many tombs including those of special importance at Medina. It is equally strongly held by all Shi'as and very large numbers of other Moslems that the Wahhabi attitude is wounding to their deepest religious sentiments. The Saudi Government have recently made some concessions to this feeling but they have been on a very limited scale e.g. they have, I understand, restored the specially venerated tombs at Medina to some semblance of decency.

3. I consider that it would be most unwise of this Legation to concern itself with a question which has so eminently a religious character in the eyes of the exponents of the rival views. On April 28th, however, I sounded Fuad Bey privately on the subject, knowing to be a man of moderate personal views. He told me in effect that the Wahhabi opinion which the Saudi Government had to consider was still so little advanced that it would be a very delicate matter to raise the question of a genuine restoration of tombs. He advised me definitely not to connect this with the electricity question.

4. When I saw Nawab Ahsan Yar Jung three days later, I found him very ready to agree that it would be a mistake to seek permission to recondition the actual tombs. He explained that for the time being the Government of His Exalted Highness wished merely to restore ^{the} ~~that~~ walls enclosing the cemetery at Medina known as El-Bakia and a small adjoining cemetery shown to the north of it in the plan in Mr. Rutter's "Holy Cities of Arabia". They also wished, he said, to restore the wall of the cemetery in Mecca called El-Maala.

5. The Nawab had understood from the personages, whom he had seen, that there would be no objection to the reconditioning of the walls mentioned above. Nevertheless I should very much prefer not to raise officially with the Saudi Arab Government any question concerning the cemeteries. I

suggest





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suggest that if, as I hope, formal permission is given for the electricity scheme and if the Nawab is sent here to carry it out, he should be authorised to take up the question of repairing the cemetery walls direct with the Saudi authorities, when the electrical project is well on the way to completion.

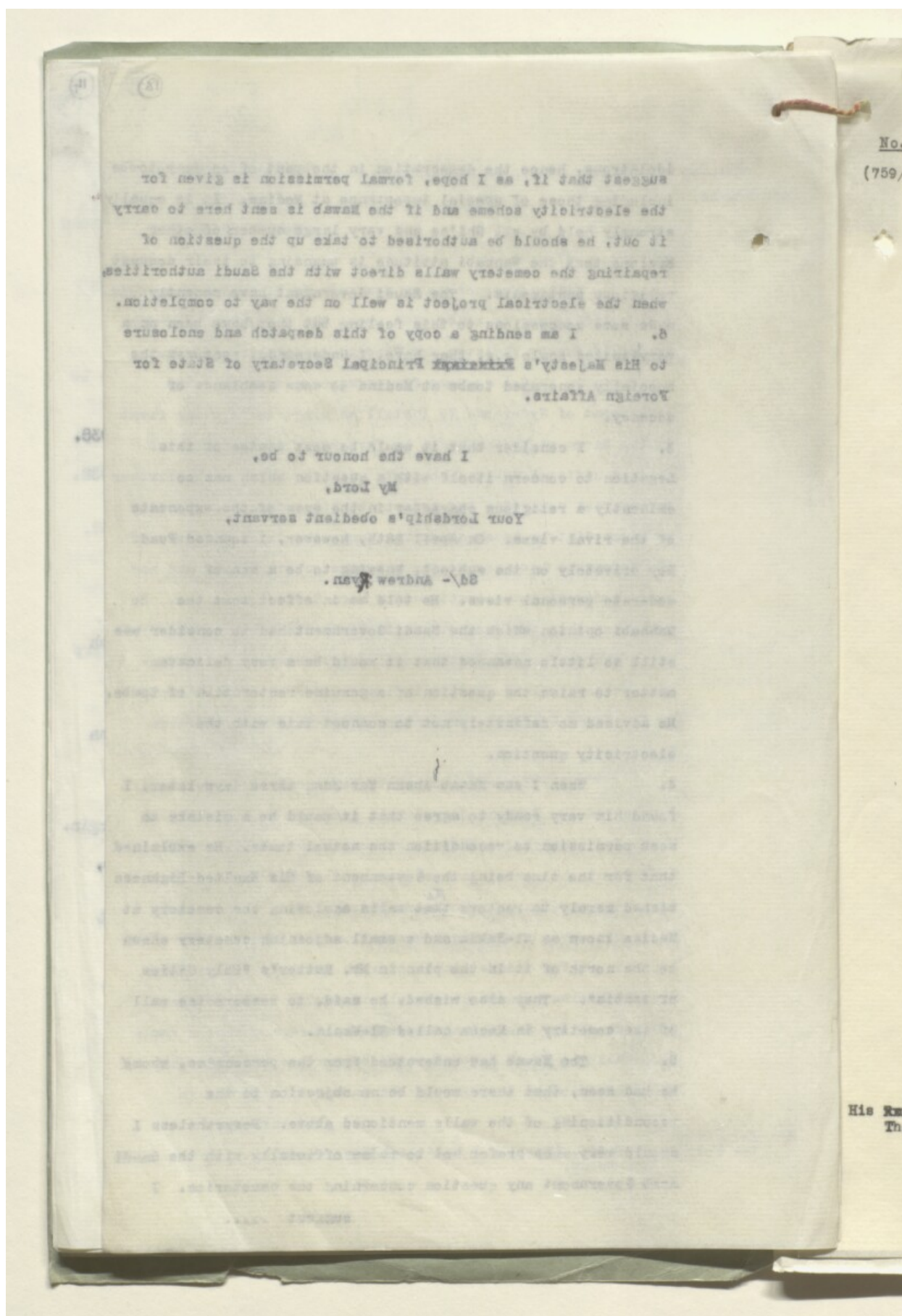
6. I am sending a copy of this despatch and enclosure to His Majesty's ~~Principal~~ Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.

I have the honour to be,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's obedient servant,

Sd/- Andrew Ryan.





No. 65.
(759/238/21).

British Legation,
Jedda.
24th April 1936.

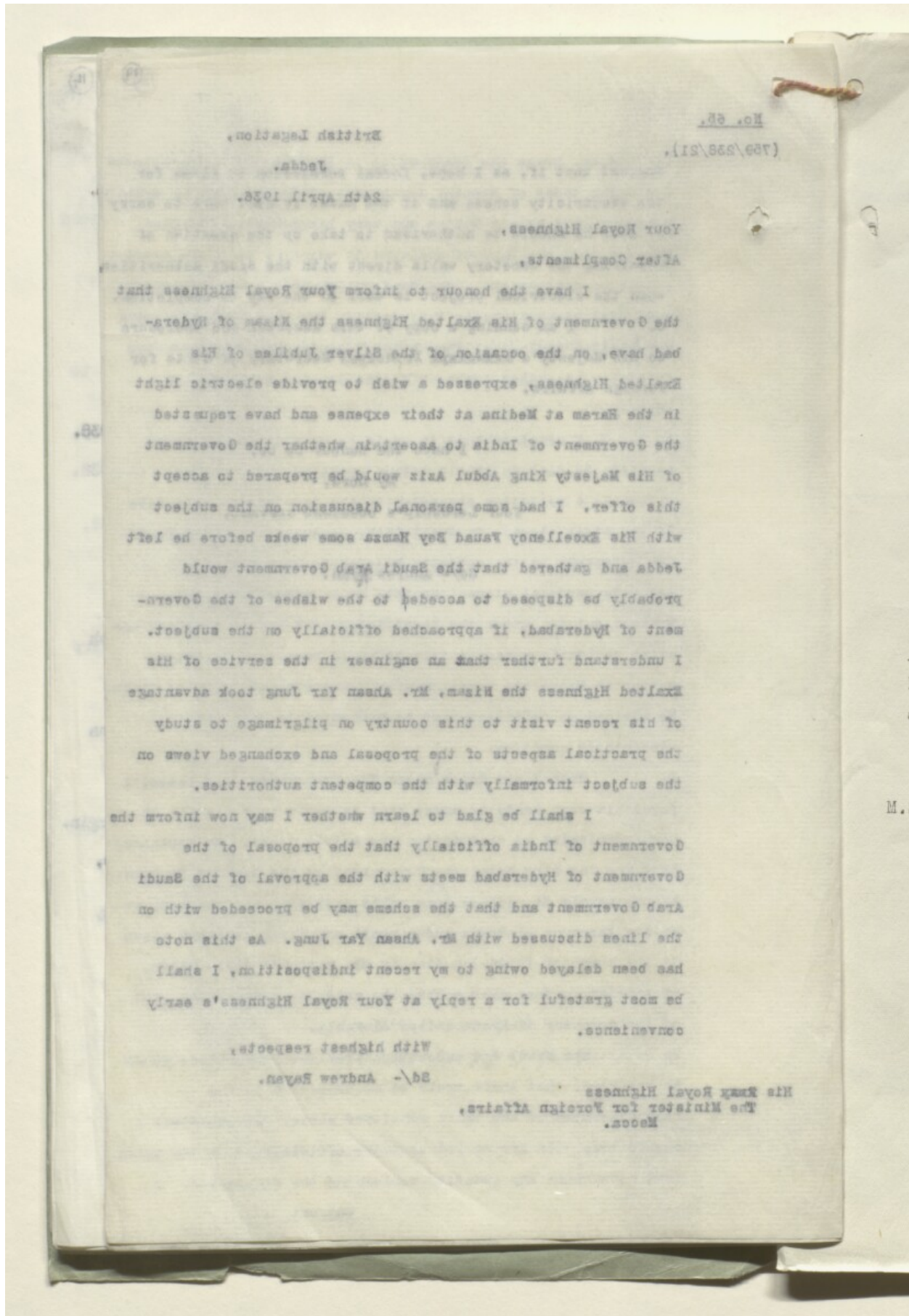
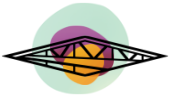
Your Royal Highness,
After Compliments,

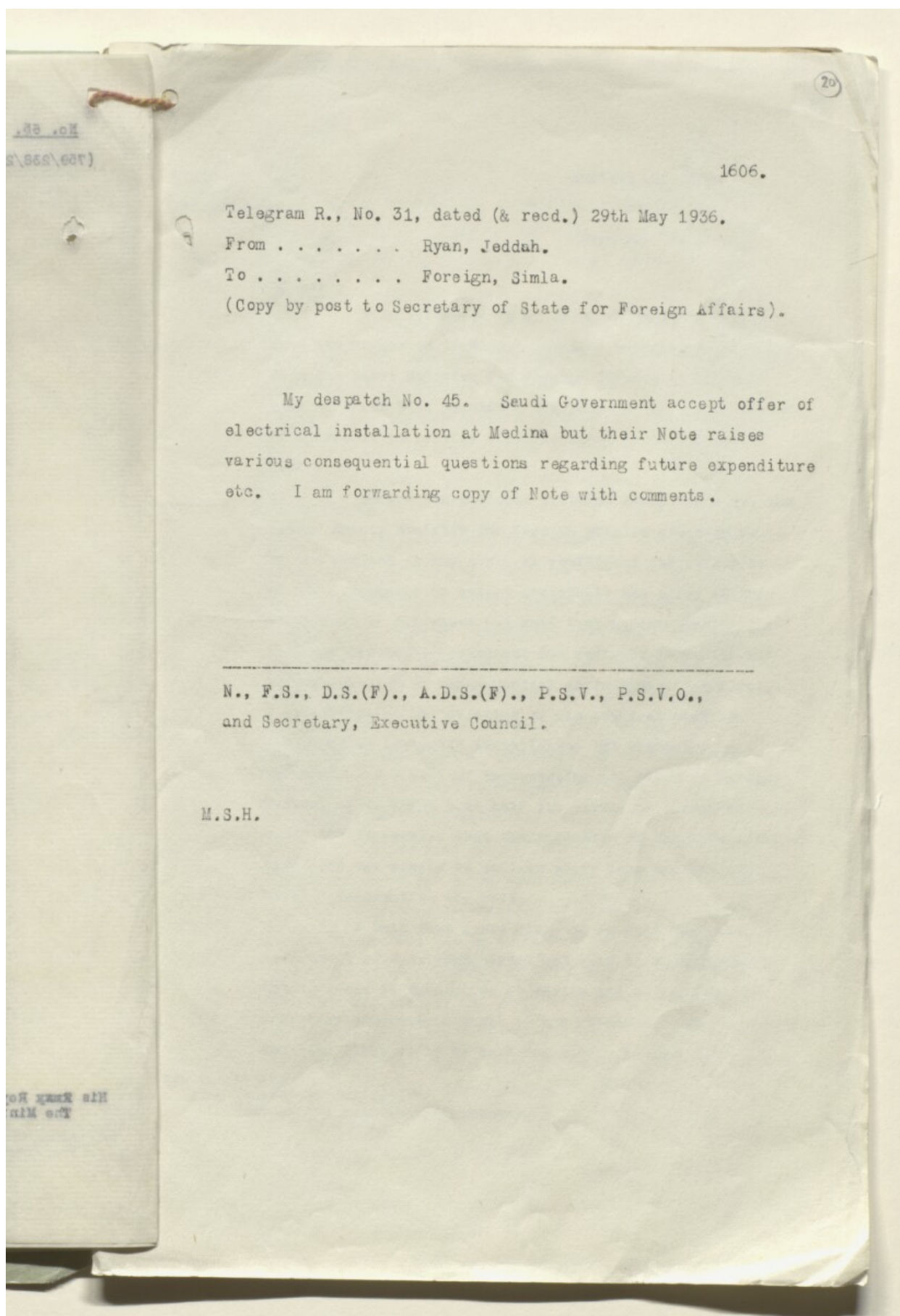
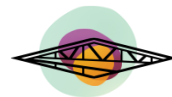
I have the honour to inform Your Royal Highness that the Government of His Exalted Highness the Nizam of Hyderabad have, on the occasion of the Silver Jubilee of His Exalted Highness, expressed a wish to provide electric light in the Haram at Medina at their expense and have requested the Government of India to ascertain whether the Government of His Majesty King Abdul Aziz would be prepared to accept this offer. I had some personal discussion on the subject with His Excellency Fauad Bey Hamza some weeks before he left Jedda and gathered that the Saudi Arab Government would probably be disposed to acceded to the wishes of the Government of Hyderabad, if approached officially on the subject. I understand further that an engineer in the service of His Exalted Highness the Nizam, Mr. Ahsan Yar Jung took advantage of his recent visit to this country on pilgrimage to study the practical aspects of the proposal and exchanged views on the subject informally with the competent authorities.

I shall be glad to learn whether I may now inform the Government of India officially that the proposal of the Government of Hyderabad meets with the approval of the Saudi Arab Government and that the scheme may be proceeded with on the lines discussed with Mr. Ahsan Yar Jung. As this note has been delayed owing to my recent indisposition, I shall be most grateful for a reply at Your Royal Highness's early convenience.

With highest respects,
Sd/- Andrew Rayan.

His ~~Rexy~~ Royal Highness
The Minister for Foreign Affairs,
Mecca.





1606.

Telegram R., No. 31, dated (& recd.) 29th May 1936.

From Ryan, Jeddah.

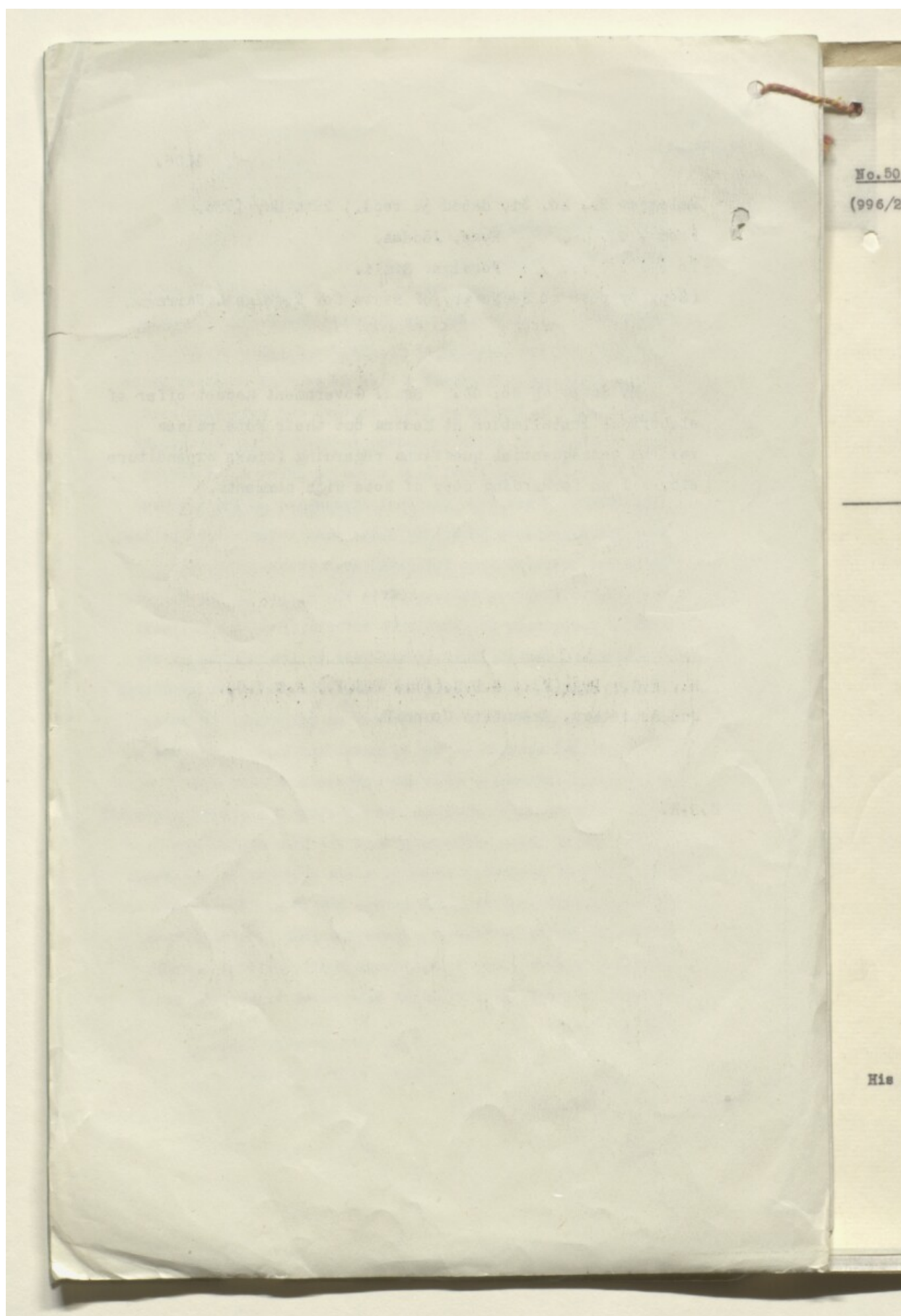
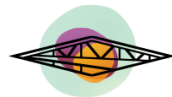
To Foreign, Simla.

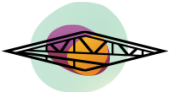
(Copy by post to Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs).

My despatch No. 45. Saudi Government accept offer of
electrical installation at Medina but their Note raises
various consequential questions regarding future expenditure
etc. I am forwarding copy of Note with comments.

N., F.S., D.S.(F), A.D.S.(F), P.S.V., P.S.V.O.,
and Secretary, Executive Council.

M.S.H.





No. 50.

(996/238/35).

British Legation,

Jedda.

30th May 1936.

My Lord,

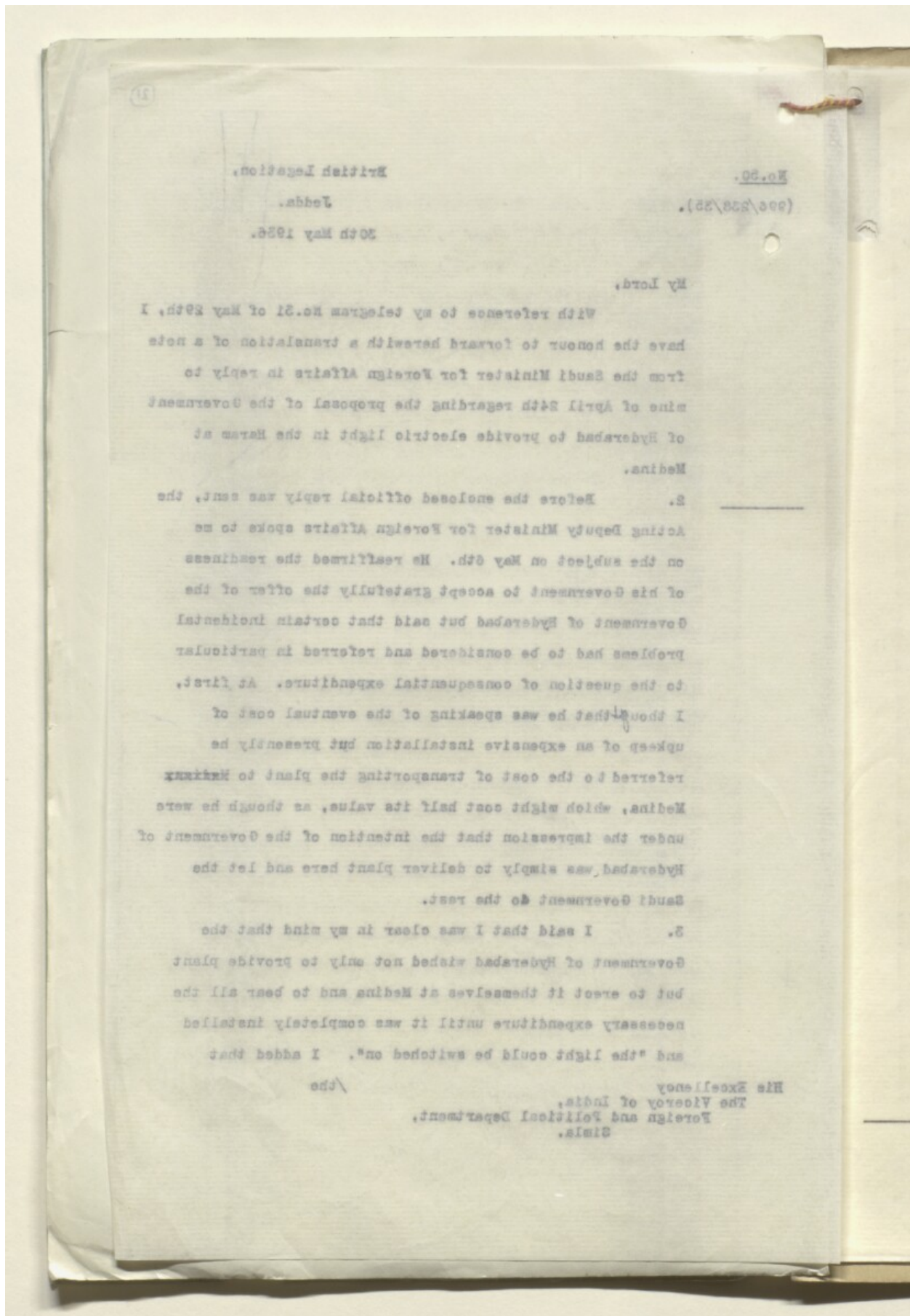
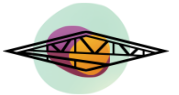
With reference to my telegram No. 31 of May 29th, I have the honour to forward herewith a translation of a note from the Saudi Minister for Foreign Affairs in reply to mine of April 24th regarding the proposal of the Government of Hyderabad to provide electric light in the Haram at Medina.

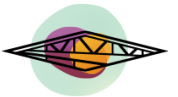
2. Before the enclosed official reply was sent, the Acting Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs spoke to me on the subject on May 6th. He reaffirmed the readiness of his Government to accept gratefully the offer of the Government of Hyderabad but said that certain incidental problems had to be considered and referred in particular to the question of consequential expenditure. At first, I thought that he was speaking of the eventual cost of upkeep of an expensive installation but presently he referred to the cost of transporting the plant to ~~Mekka~~ Medina, which might cost half its value, as though he were under the impression that the intention of the Government of Hyderabad was simply to deliver plant here and let the Saudi Government do the rest.

3. I said that I was clear in my mind that the Government of Hyderabad wished not only to provide plant but to erect it themselves at Medina and to bear all the necessary expenditure until it was completely installed and "the light could be switched on". I added that

His Excellency
The Viceroy of India,
Foreign and Political Department,
Simla.

/the





.05.05
22/05/1955

22

the question of eventual expenditure on upkeep was certainly ~~not~~ one requiring careful consideration but that I had no information regarding any views of the Government of Hyderabad on this aspect of the matter.

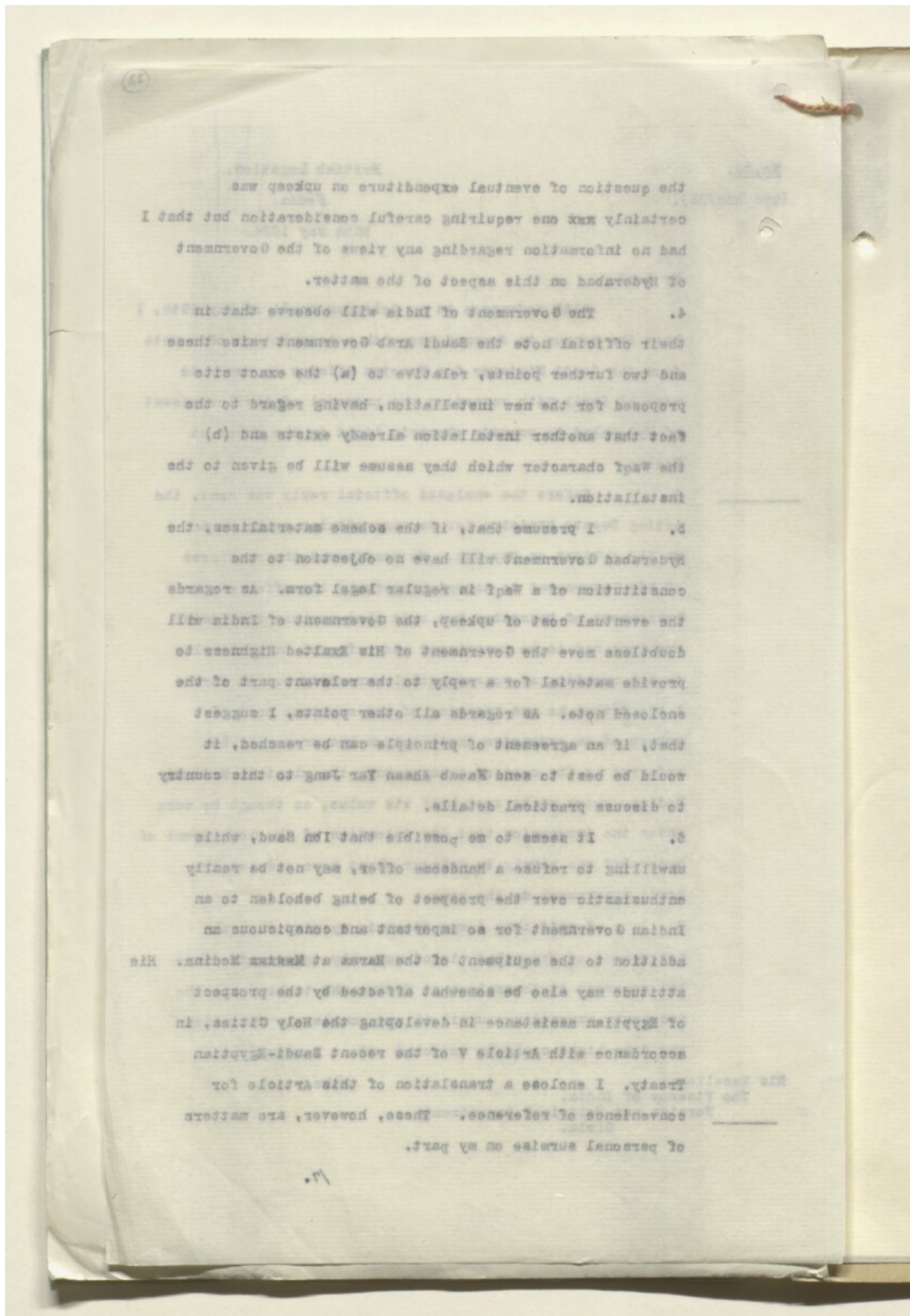
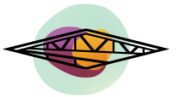
4. The Government of India will observe that in their official note the Saudi Arab Government raise these and two further points, relative to (a) the exact site proposed for the new installation, having regard to the fact that another installation already exists and (b) the Waqf character which they assume will be given to the installation.

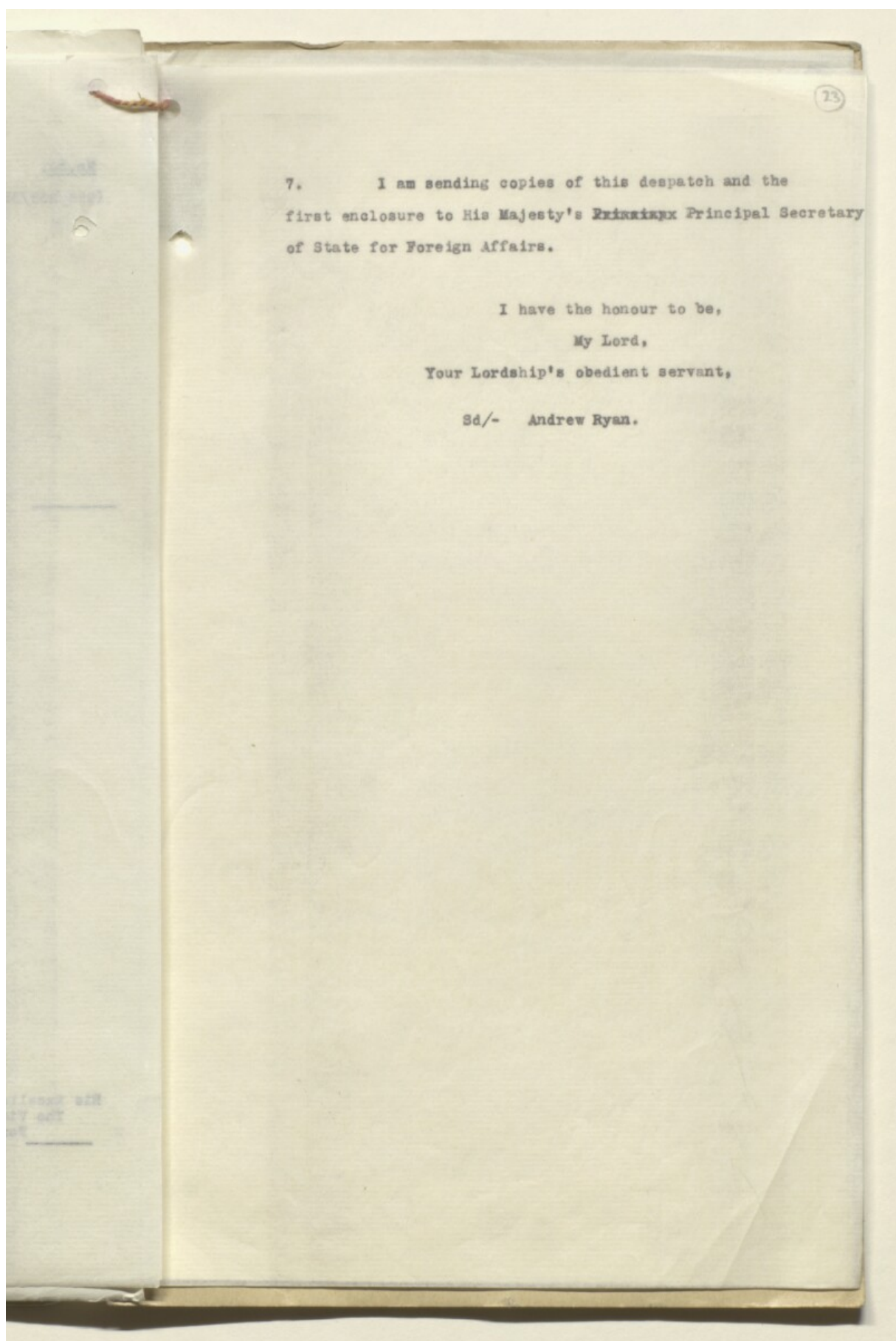
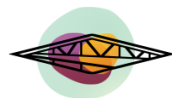
5. I presume that, if the scheme materialises, the Hyderabad Government will have no objection to the constitution of a Waqf in regular legal form. As regards the eventual cost of upkeep, the Government of India will doubtless move the Government of His Exalted Highness to provide material for a reply to the relevant part of the enclosed note. As regards all other points, I suggest that, if an agreement of principle can be reached, it would be best to send Nawab Ahsan Yar Jung to this country to discuss practical details.

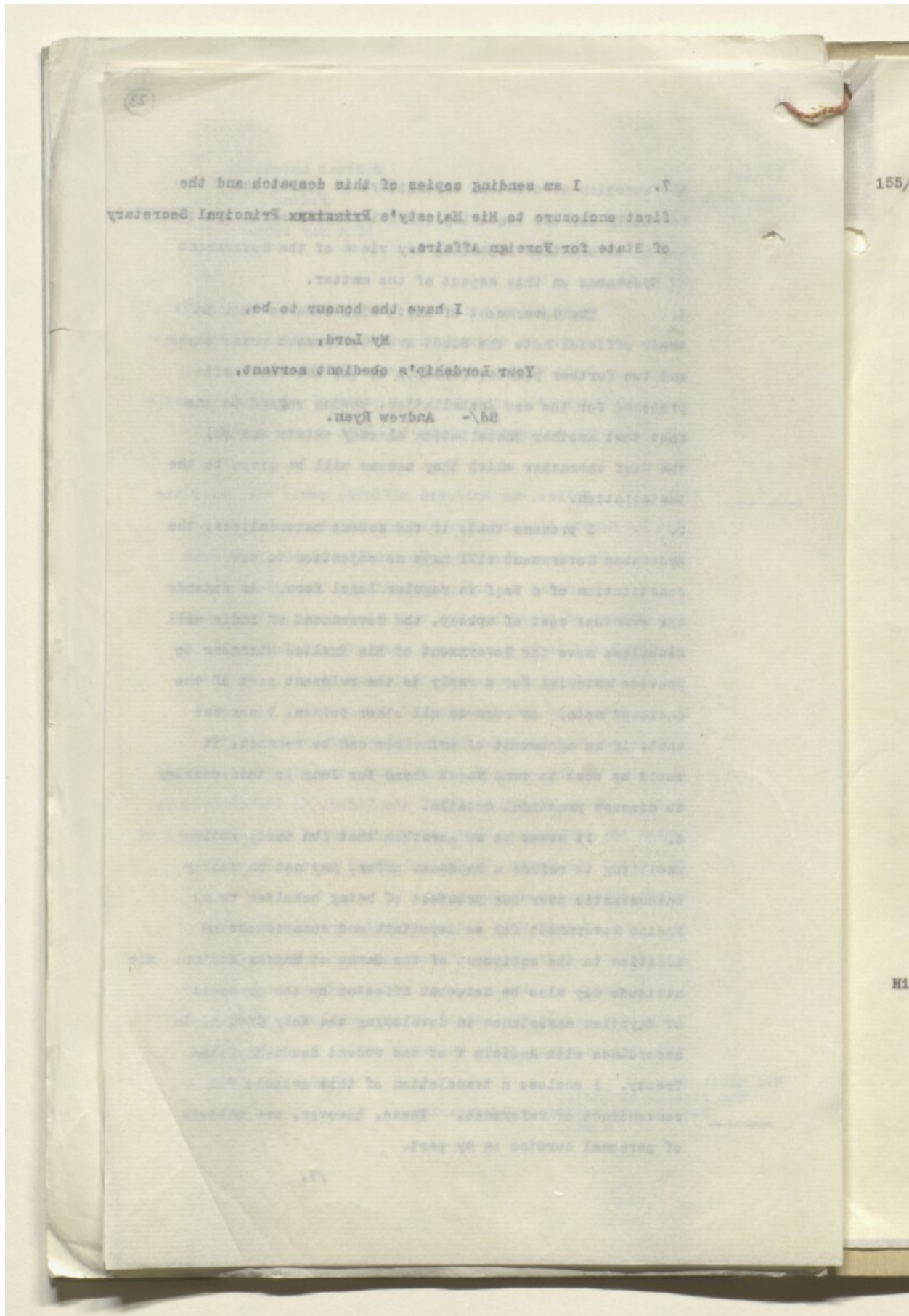
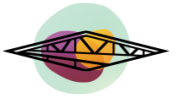
6. It seems to me possible that Ibn Saud, while unwilling to refuse a handsome offer, may not be really enthusiastic over the prospect of being beholden to an Indian Government for so important and conspicuous an addition to the equipment of the Haram at ~~Makkah~~ Medina. His attitude may also be somewhat affected by the prospect of Egyptian assistance in developing the Holy Cities, in accordance with Article V of the recent Saudi-Egyptian Treaty. I enclose a translation of this Article for convenience of reference. These, however, are matters of personal surmise on my part.

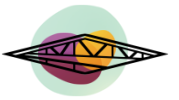
/7.

His Exalted Highness
The Viceroy
to









24

Translation.

155/2/3.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs,

Mecca.

24th Safar 1355.

16th May 1936.

Your Excellency,

I acknowledge the receipt of Your Excellency's note No.65 (759/238/21) dated 24th April 1936 in respect of the desire of the Government of His Highness the Nizam of Hyderabad to supply electric light to the Haram at their expense, and I am glad to inform you that the Government of H.M. the King welcome the offer and approve of any action which may be taken by Muslims for the welfare of this Holy country. Before however the Government of H.H. the Nizam send the electric plant, my Government wish to bring to the notice of the Government of H.H. the Nizam the fact that al Haram al Medina ~~Madina~~ has at present an electric plant of 40 h.p. and though the new plant which will be supplied will be an extra one our Government will not object to accept it. They wish also to know the opinion of the Government of H.H. the Nizam about the place which they wish to build in order to be as a Waqf for the plant, and also the permanent expenses which will be secured by the Government of H.H. the Nizam for the future upkeep of the plant in working order and the expenses for the establishment of the same.

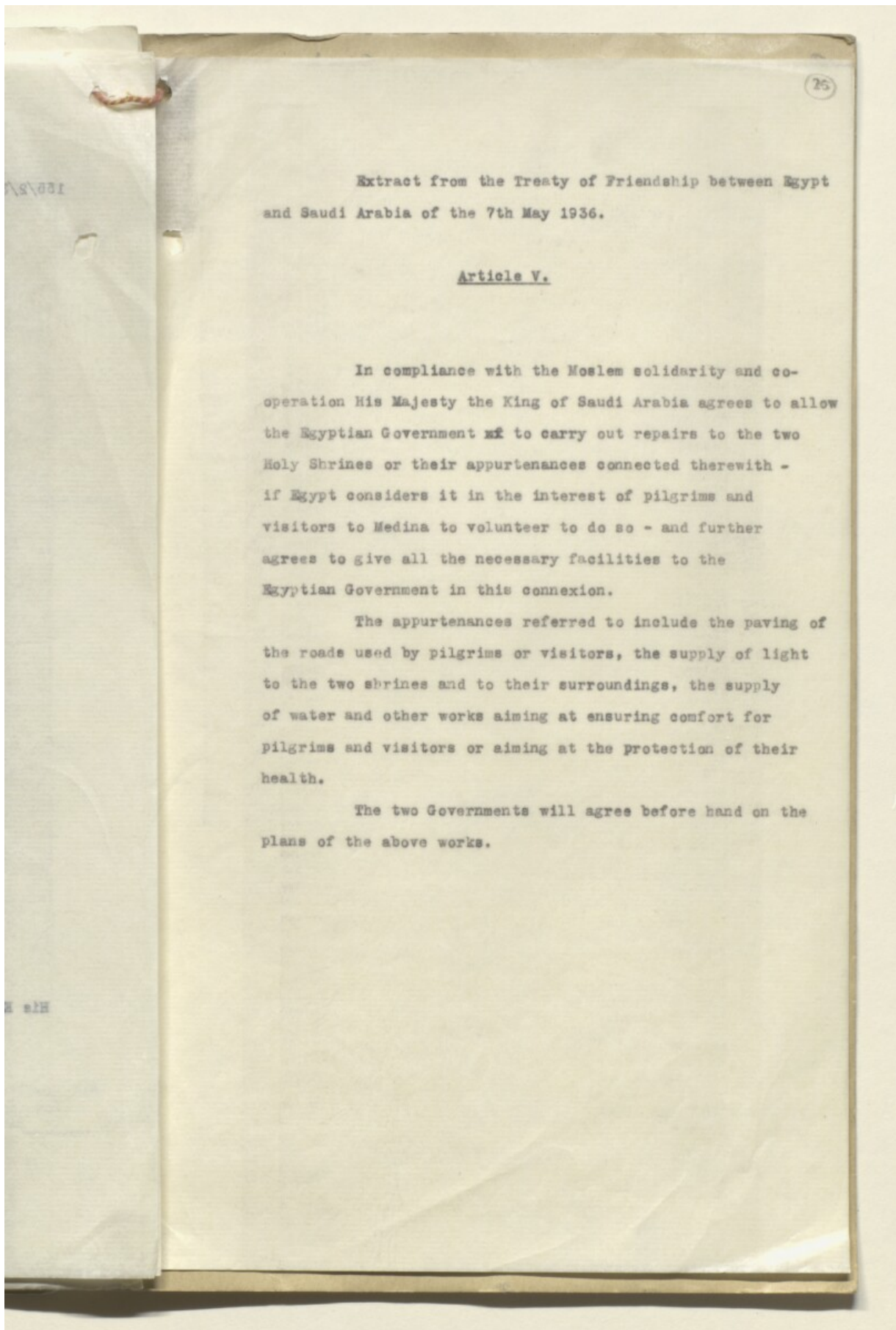
With highest respects,

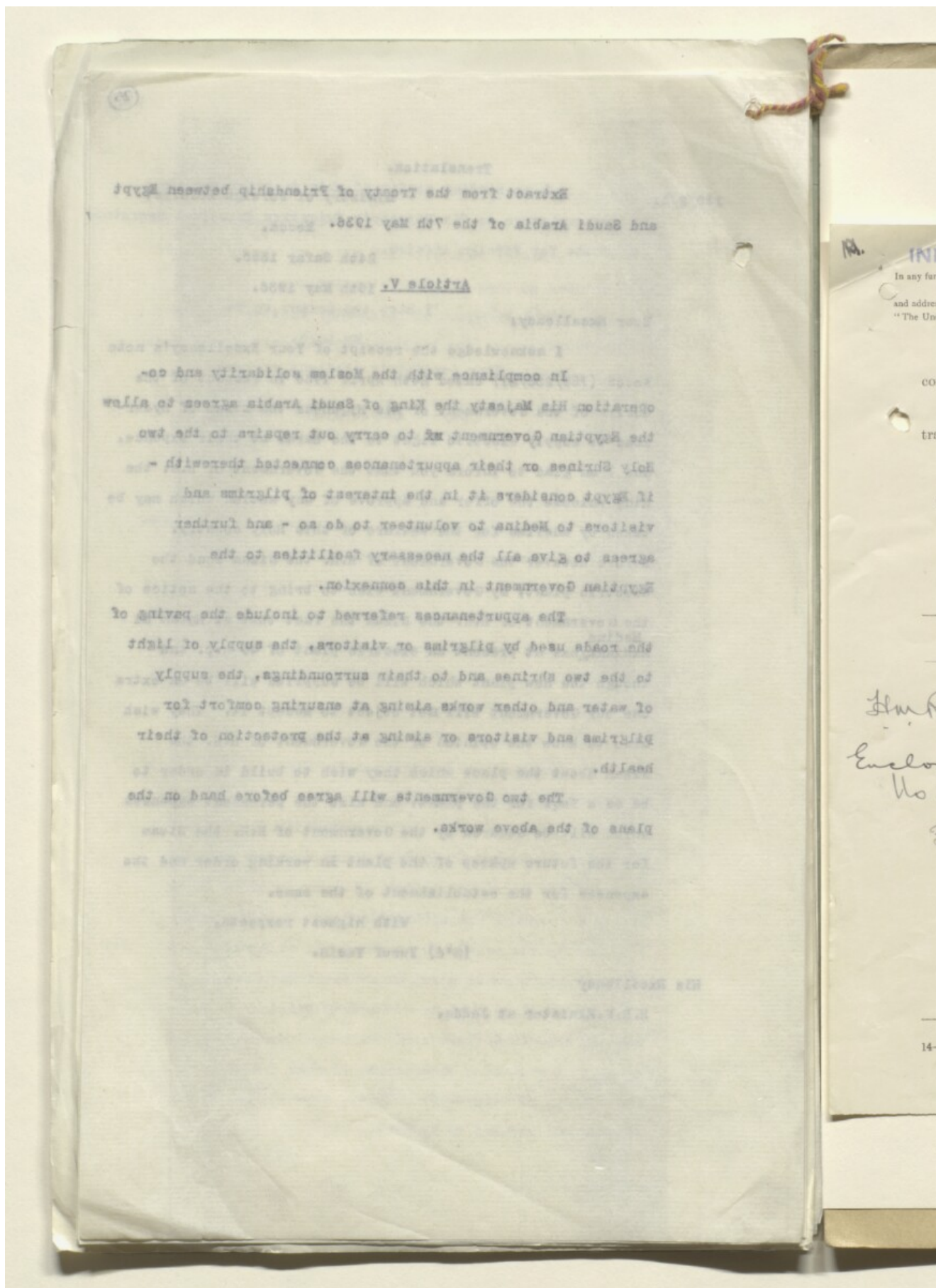
(S'd) Yusuf Yasin.

His Excellency

H.E.H. Minister at Jedda.

View on the Qatar Digital Library: http://www.qdl.qa/en/archive/81055/vdc_100041684076.0x000031







INDEXED

In any further communication on this subject, please quote
No. 3727/837/25
and address—not to any person by name, but to—
"The Under-Secretary of State," Foreign Office, London, S.W. 1.

INDIA DIRECT (26)

P. Z.
4596

Keep
Mc
30/6

THE Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs presents his
compliments to *The Under-Secretary of State for India*
and, by direction of the Secretary of State,
transmits herewith copies of the under-mentioned paper.

Foreign Office,
29 June, 1936.

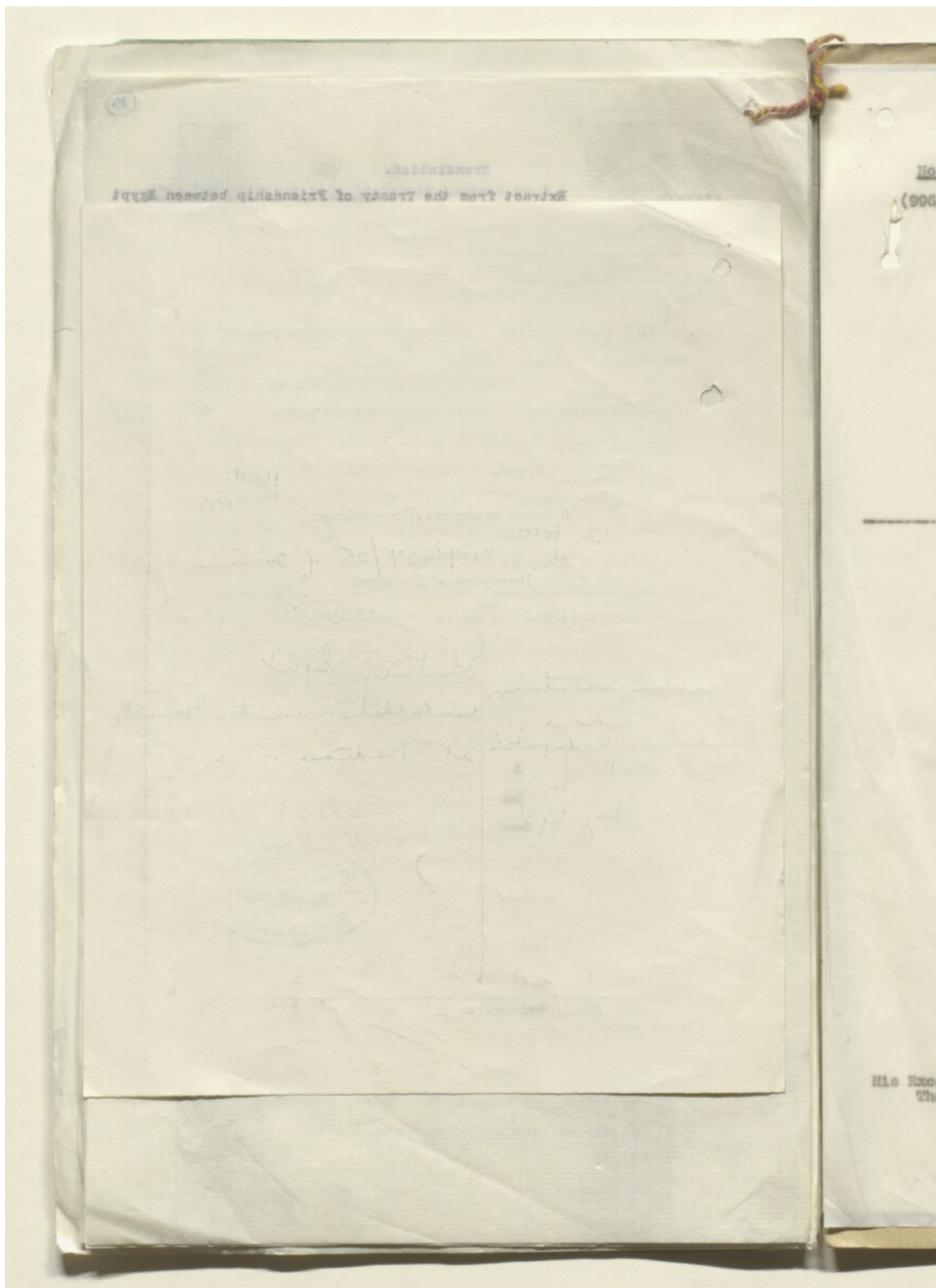
Reference to previous correspondence:
Go. letter
No. 3187/837/25 of 20 June 1936.

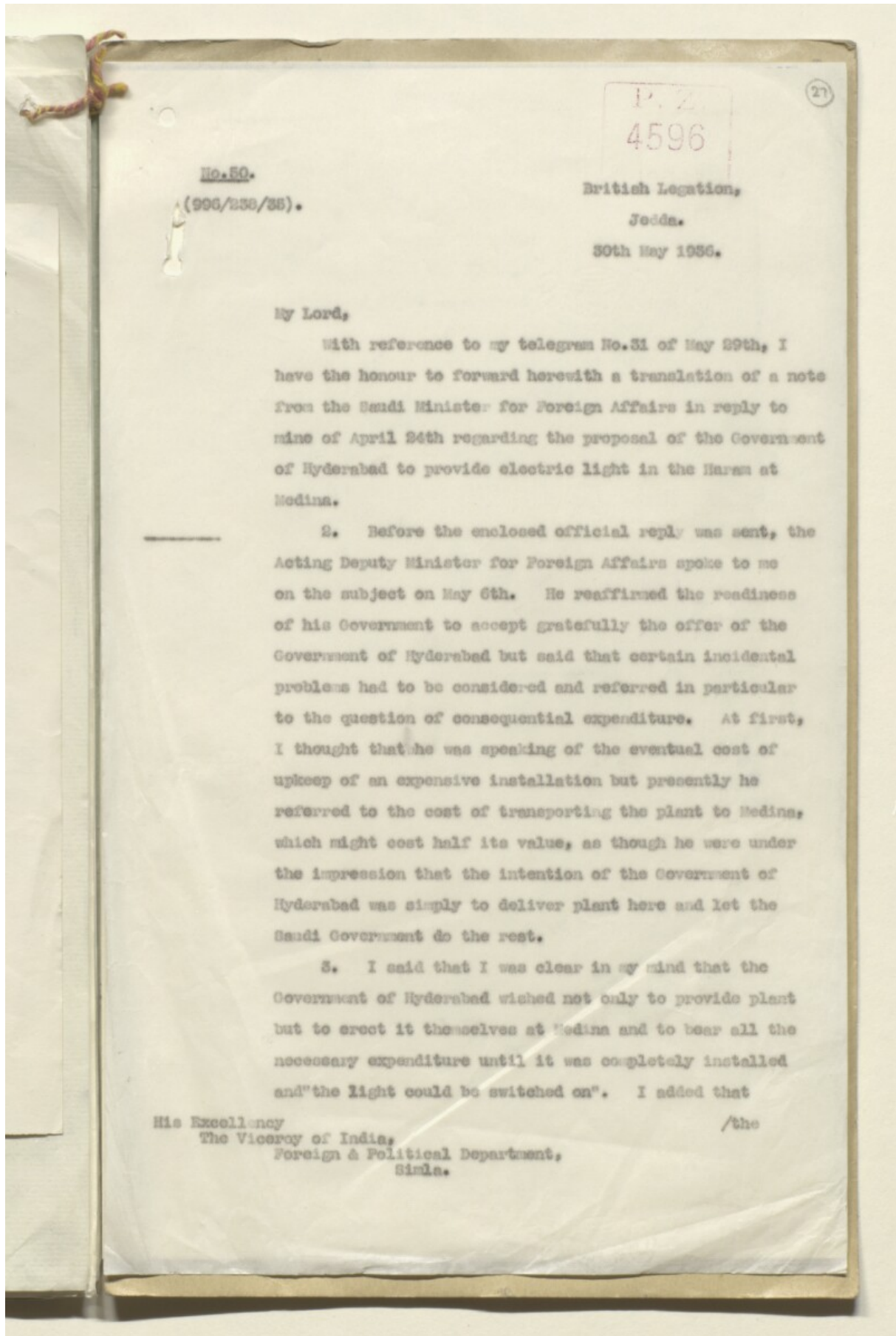
Description of Enclosure.

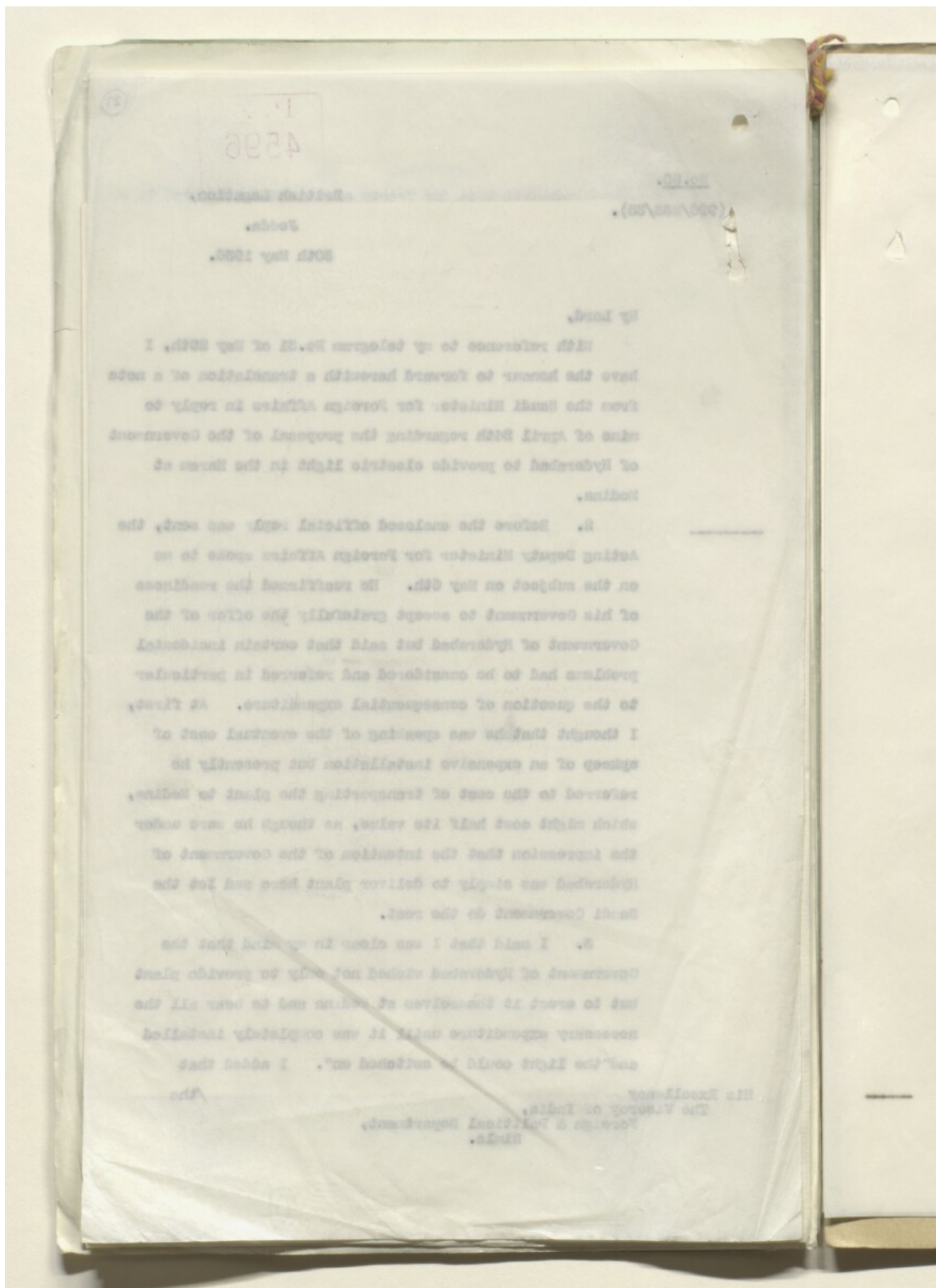
Name and Date.	Subject.
<i>H.M. Representative, Jedda. Enclosure to dispatch No. 161 of 30 May 1936.</i>	<i>Electric light installation in the Haram at Medina.</i>

MAILS BRANCH
30 JUN 1936
INDIA OFFICE

Similar letter sent to
14-6130 12588 (2)









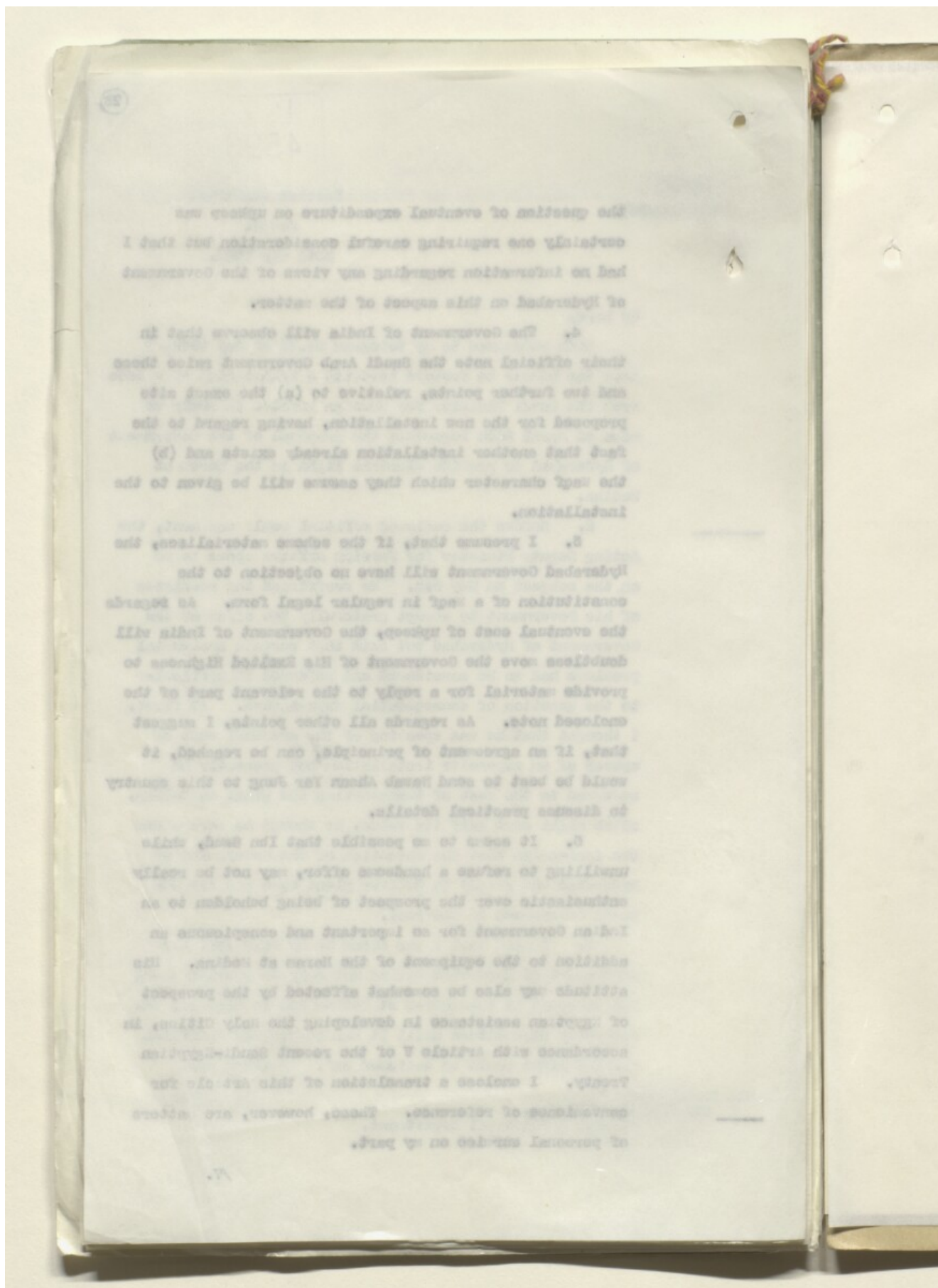
the question of eventual expenditure on upkeep was certainly one requiring careful consideration but that I had no information regarding any views of the Government of Hyderabad on this aspect of the matter.

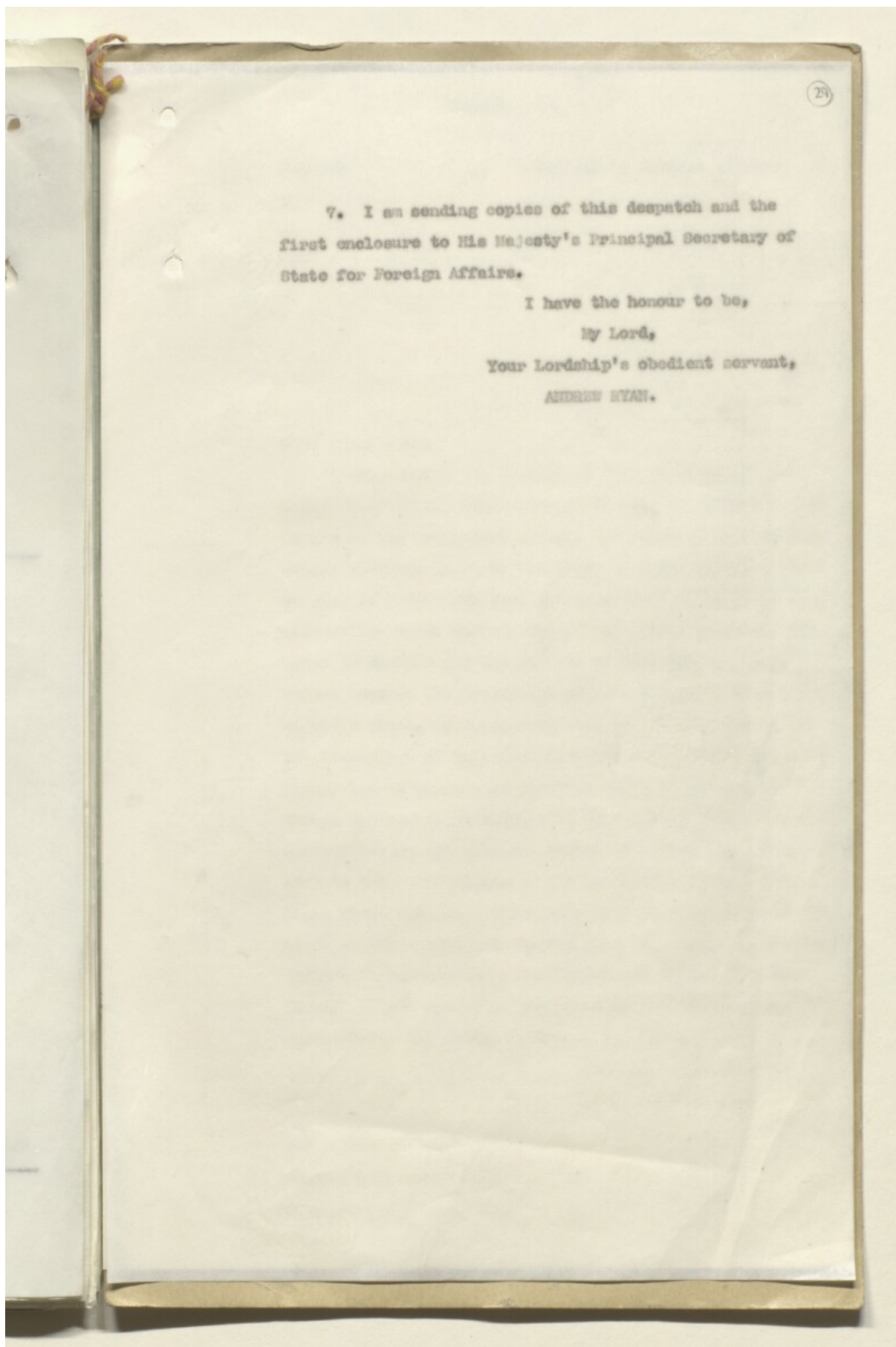
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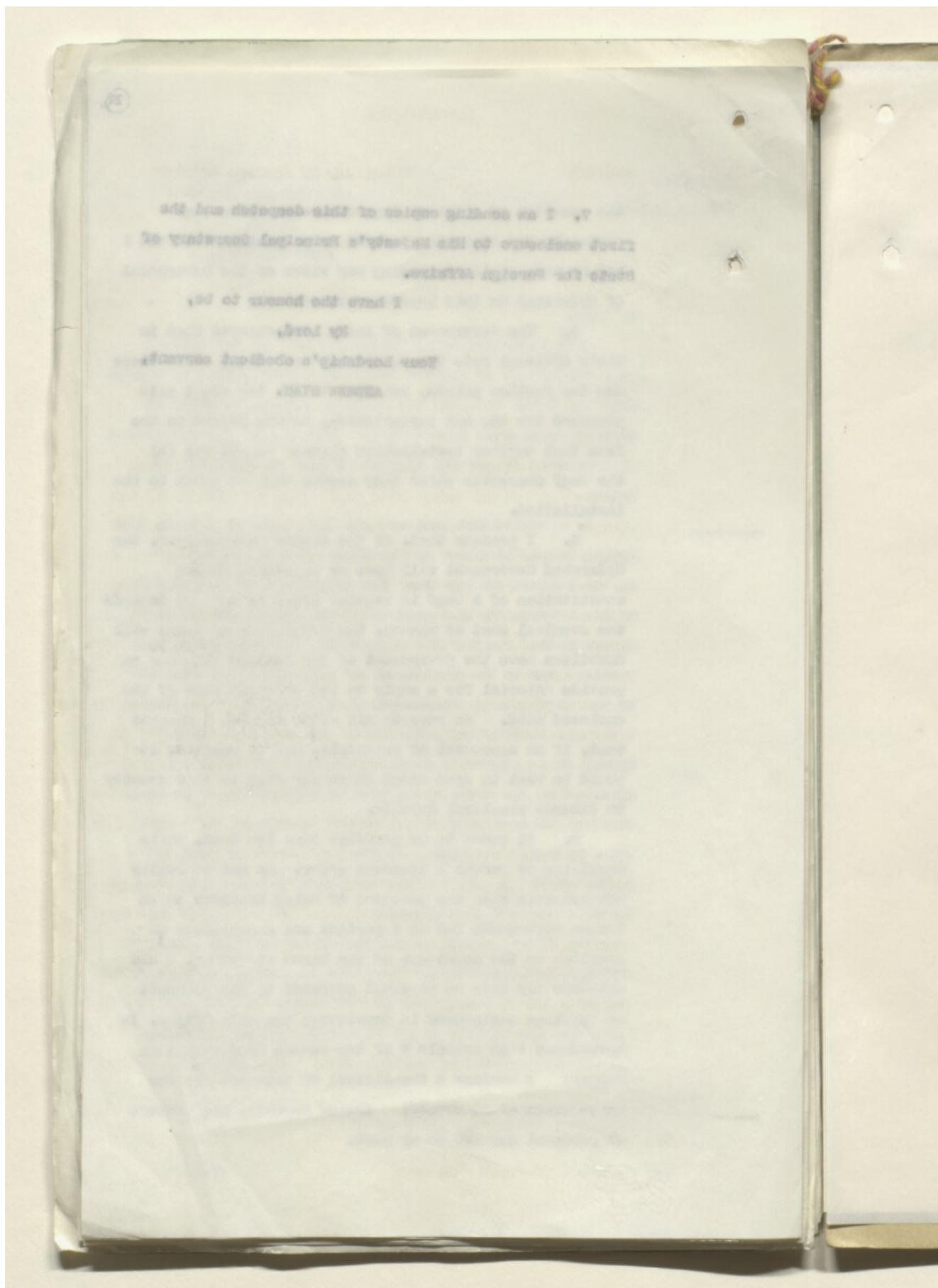
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6. It seems to me possible that Ibn Saud, while unwilling to refuse a handsome offer, may not be really enthusiastic over the prospect of being beholden to an Indian Government for so important and conspicuous an addition to the equipment of the Haram at Medina. His attitude may also be somewhat affected by the prospect of Egyptian assistance in developing the Holy Cities, in accordance with Article V of the recent Saudi-Egyptian Treaty. I enclose a translation of this Article for convenience of reference. These, however, are matters of personal surmise on my part.

/V.









Translation.

155/2/3

Ministry of Foreign Affairs,

Mecca.

24th Safar 1355

16th May 1936.

Your Excellency,

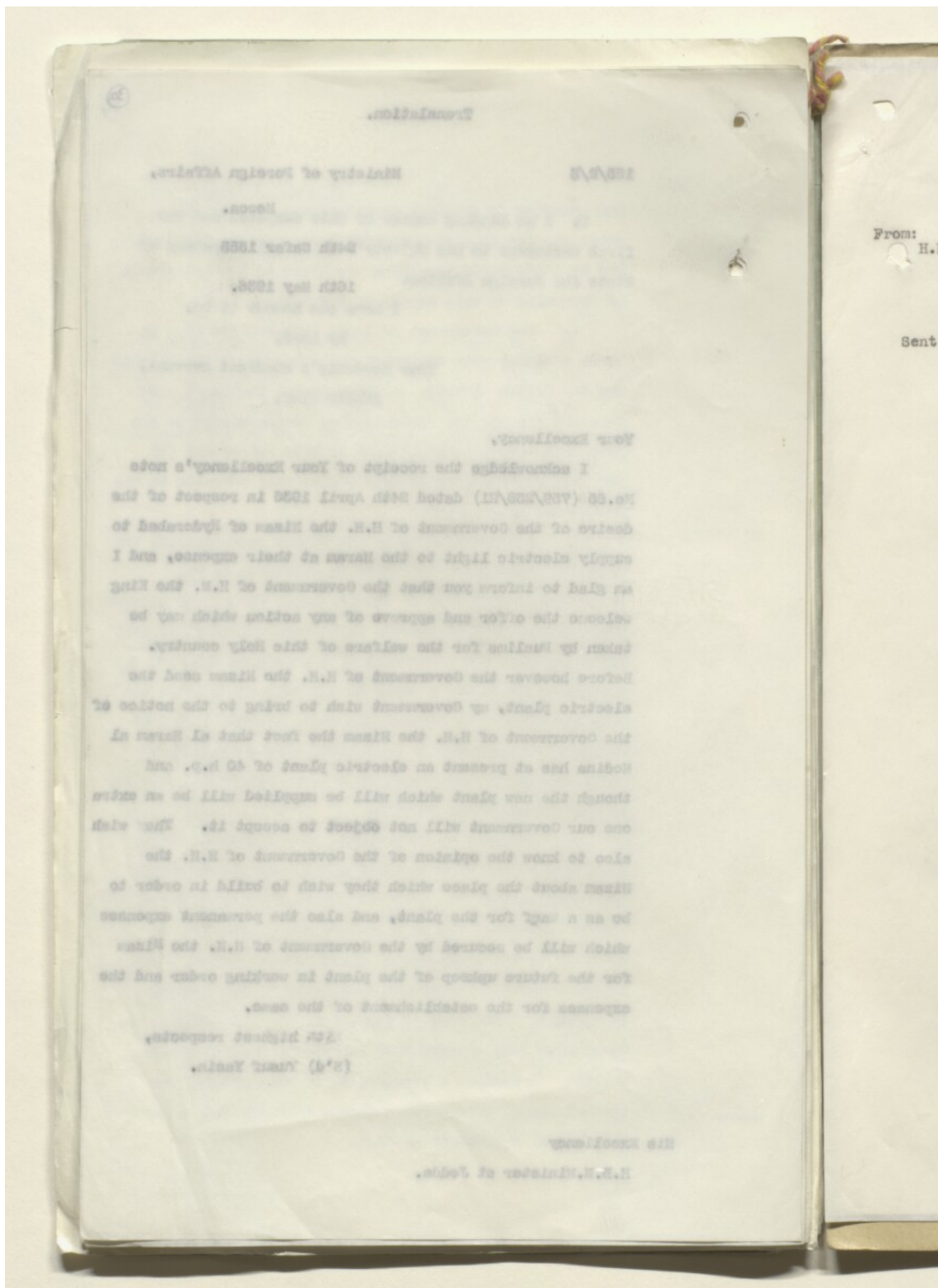
I acknowledge the receipt of Your Excellency's note No. 65 (759/238/E1) dated 24th April 1936 in respect of the desire of the Government of H.H. the Nizam of Hyderabad to supply electric light to the Haram at their expense, and I am glad to inform you that the Government of H.M. the King welcome the offer and approve of any action which may be taken by Muslims for the welfare of this Holy country. Before however the Government of H.H. the Nizam send the electric plant, my Government wish to bring to the notice of the Government of H.H. the Nizam the fact that al Haram al Madina has at present an electric plant of 40 h.p. and though the new plant which will be supplied will be an extra one our Government will not object to accept it. They wish also to know the opinion of the Government of H.H. the Nizam about the place which they wish to build in order to be as a Waqf for the plant, and also the permanent expenses which will be secured by the Government of H.H. the Nizam for the future upkeep of the plant in working order and the expenses for the establishment of the same.

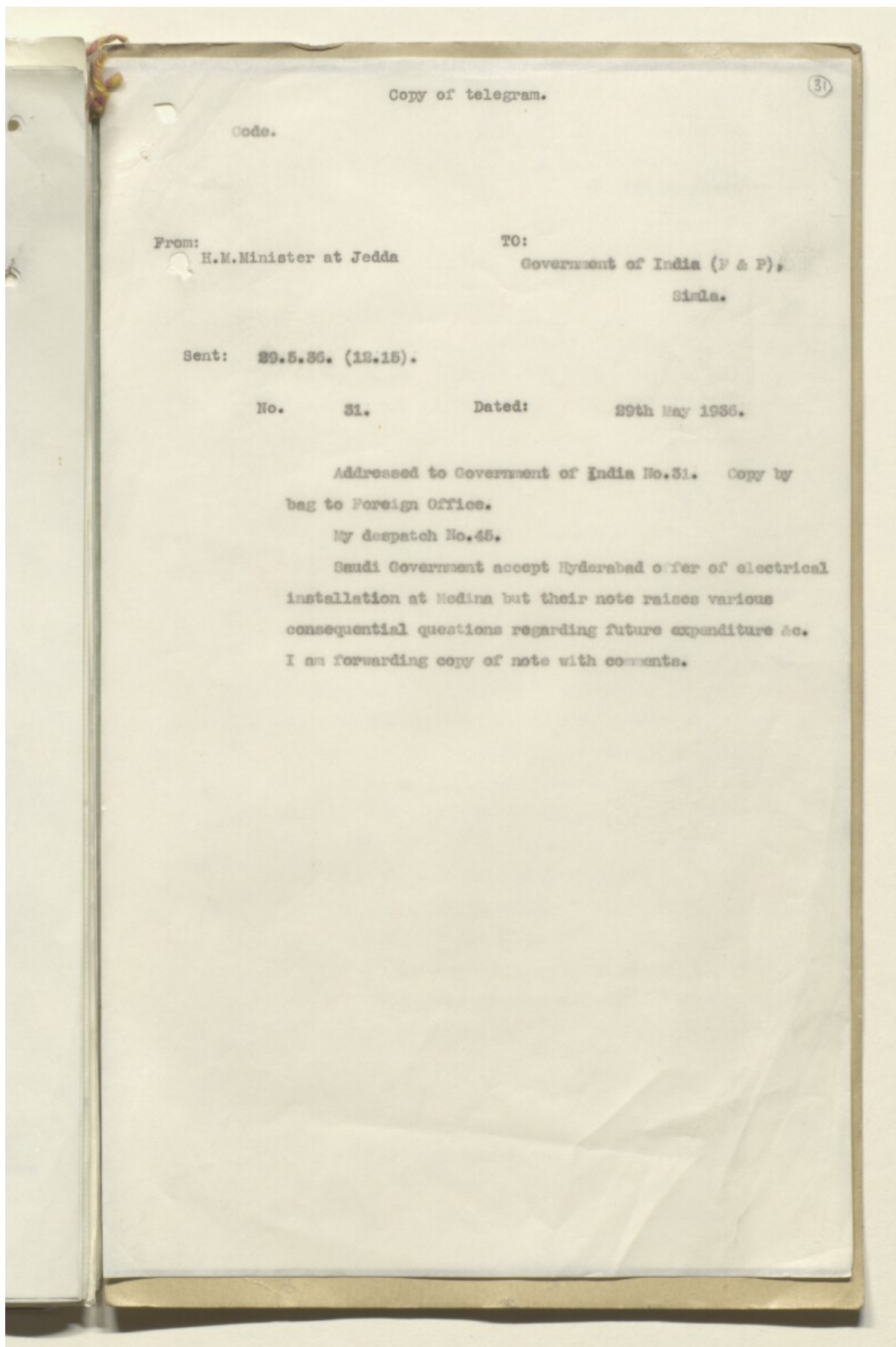
With highest respects,

(S'd) Yusuf Yasin.

His Excellency

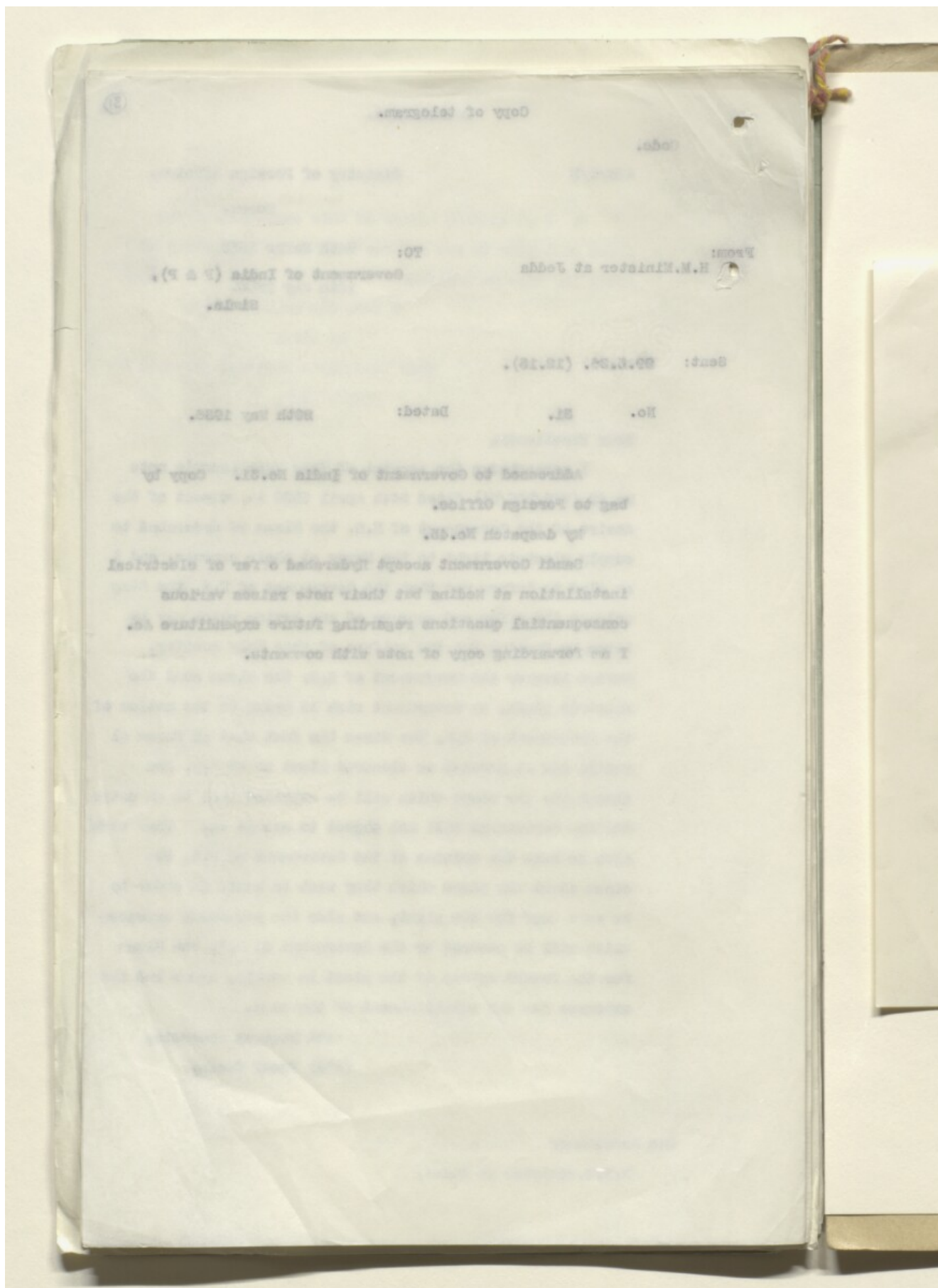
H.B.M. Minister at Jedda.

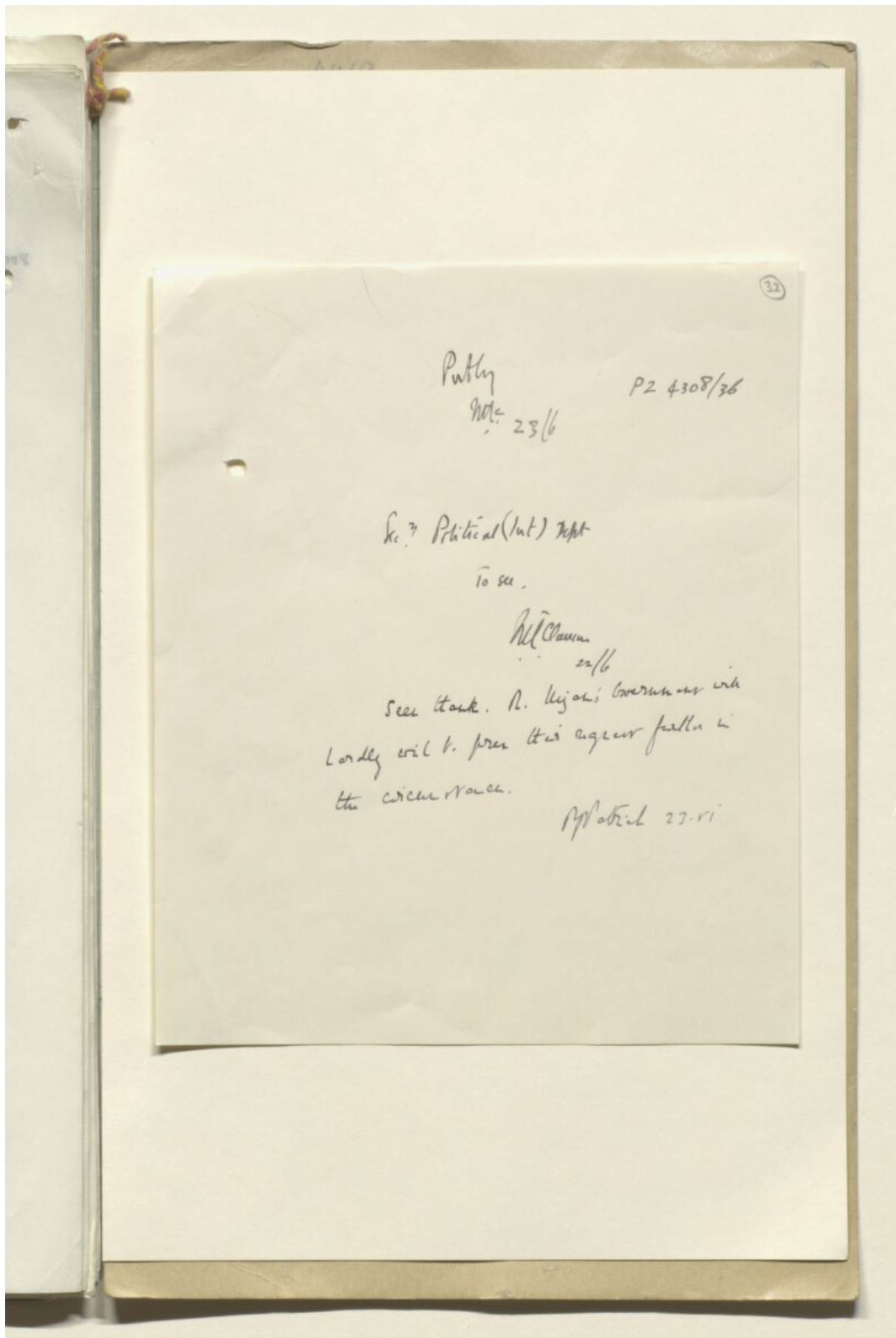






Coll 6/75 'Institutions in Arabia receiving financial support from H.E.H. the
Nizam of Hyderabad.' [31v] (62/120)





Publy
note 23/6

P2 4308/36

32

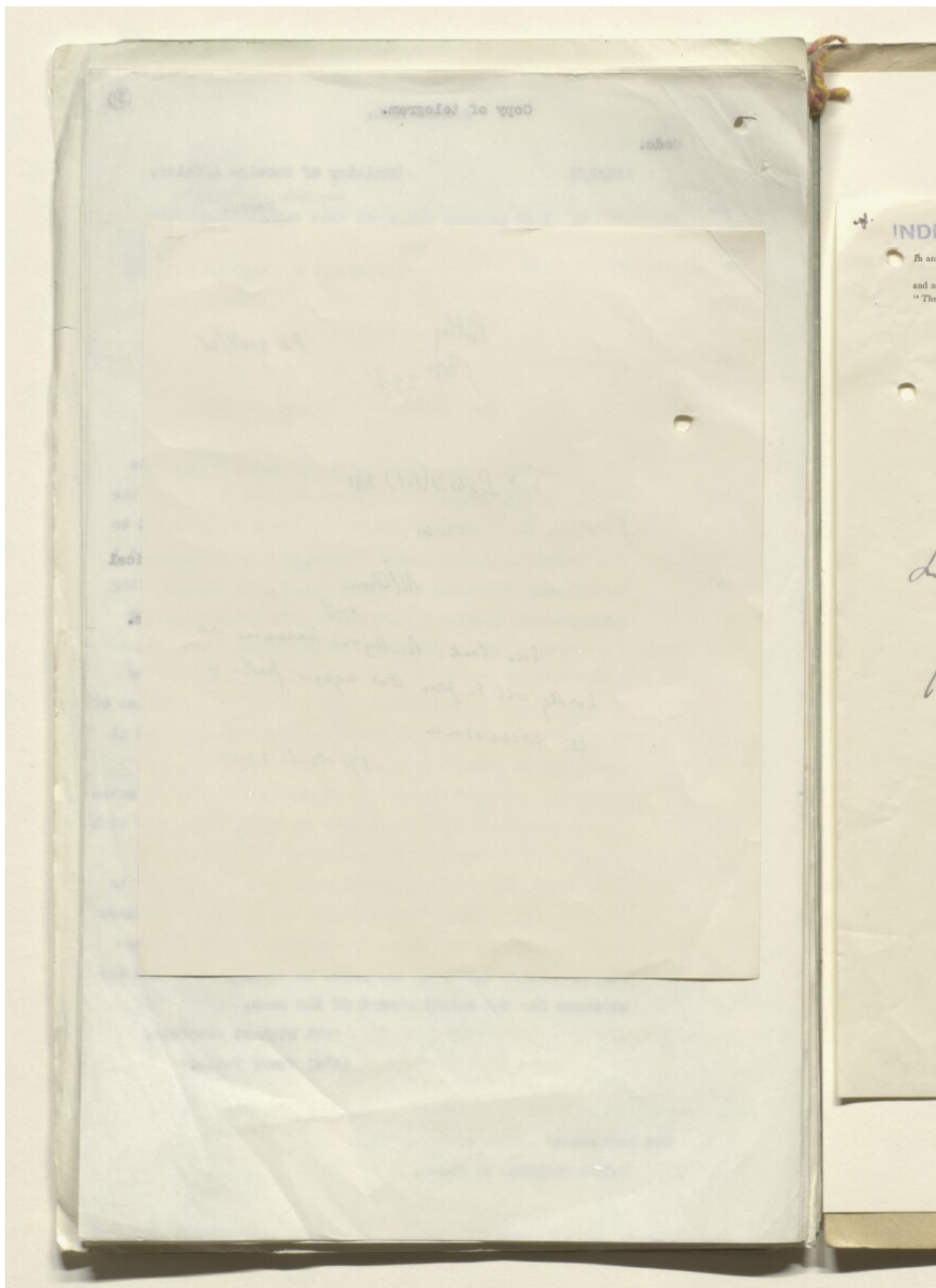
See? Political (Int) rpt

To see.

M. A. Khan
22/6

See thank. N. Nizam's Government with
Lordly will to press their request further in
the circumstances.

M. A. Khan 23. vi





INDEXED

In any further communication on this subject, please quote
No. *E3187/837/25*
and address—not to any person by name but to—
"The Under-Secretary of State," Foreign Office, London, S.W. 1.

INDIA DIRECT ³³

4308

THE Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs presents his
compliments to *the Under Secretary of State*
for India and, by direction of the Secretary of State,
transmits herewith cop *ies* of the under-mentioned paper.

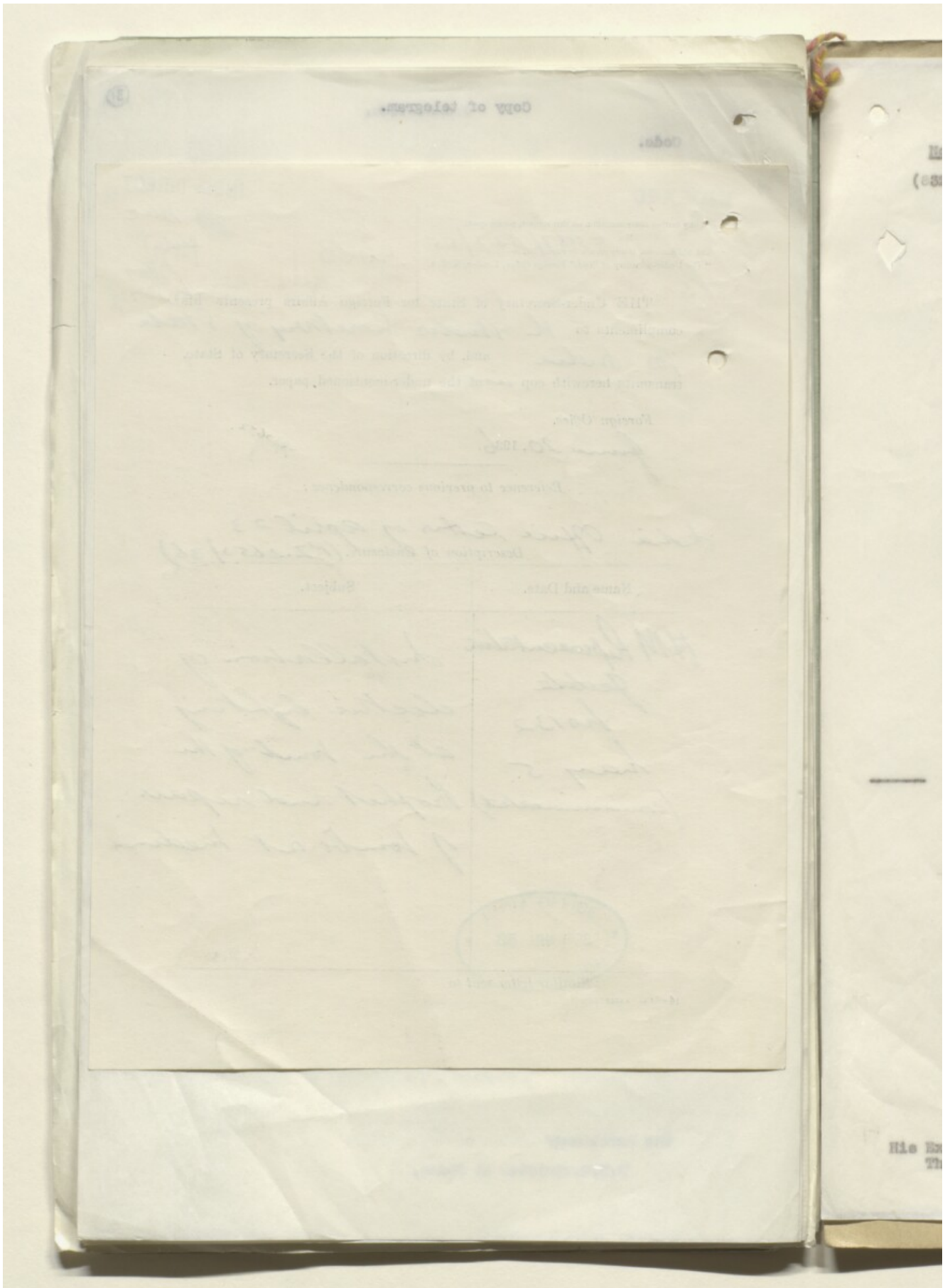
Foreign Office,
June 20, 1936.

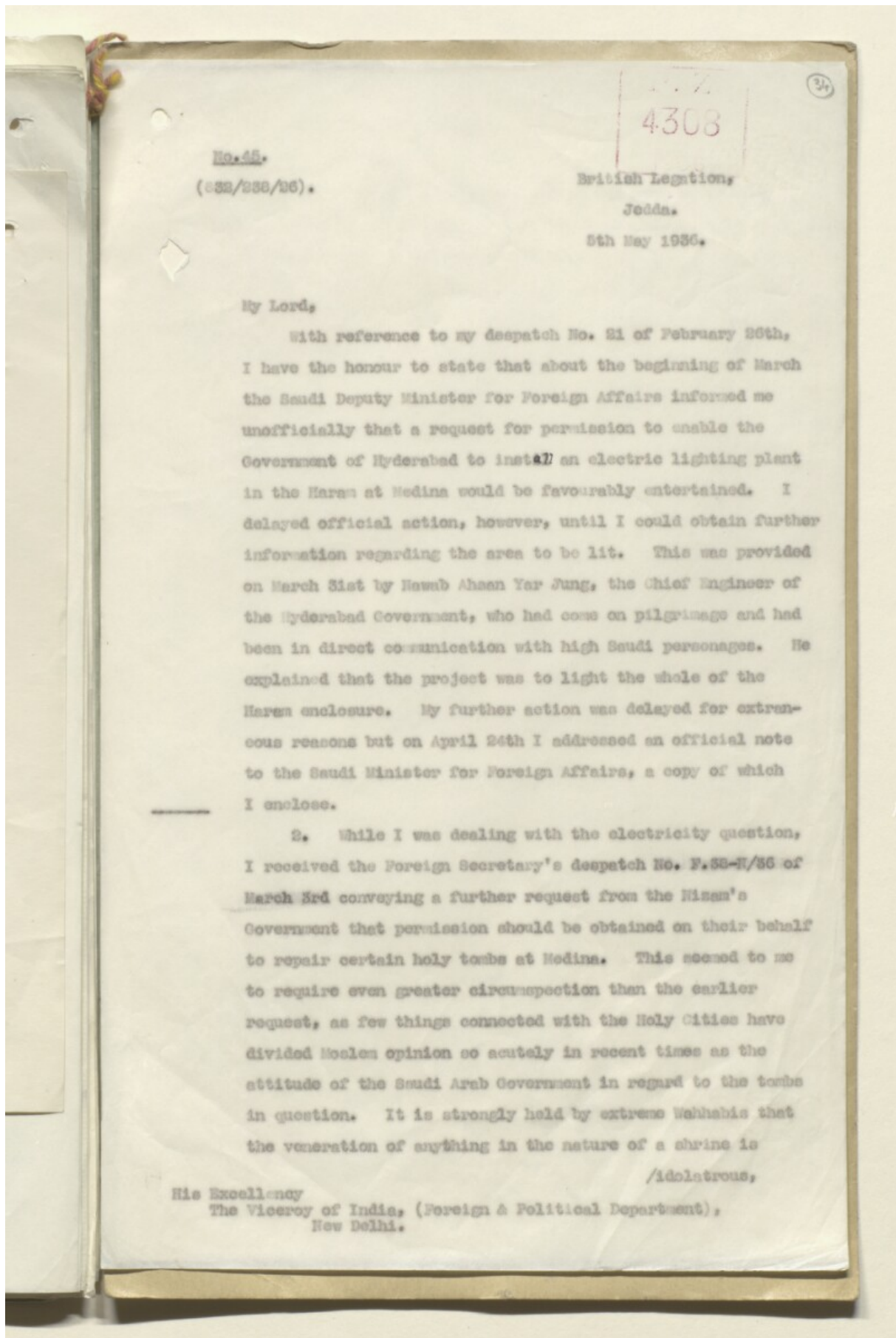
Reference to previous correspondence :
India Office letter of April 23
Description of Enclosure. *(P.Z.2652/36)*

Name and Date.	Subject.
<i>NM Representative Jeddah No 132 May 5. (communicated)</i>	<i>Installation of electric lighting at the tomb of the Prophet and repair of tombs at Medina</i>

Similar letter sent to

14-6130 13241 (2)





No. 45.
(332/336/36).

British Legation,
Jedda.
5th May 1936.

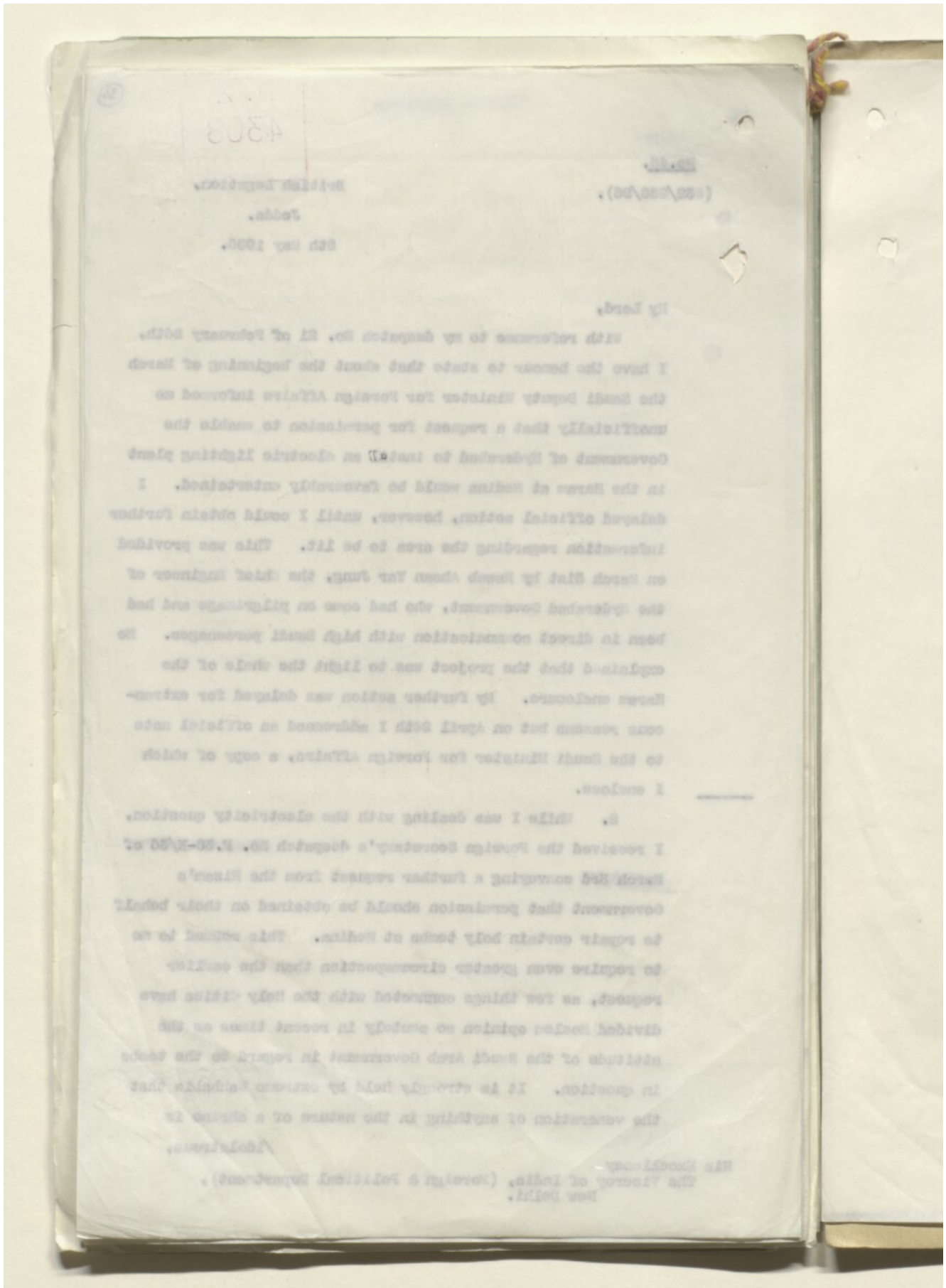
My Lord,

With reference to my despatch No. 21 of February 26th, I have the honour to state that about the beginning of March the Saudi Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs informed me unofficially that a request for permission to enable the Government of Hyderabad to install an electric lighting plant in the Haram at Medina would be favourably entertained. I delayed official action, however, until I could obtain further information regarding the area to be lit. This was provided on March 31st by Nawab Ahsan Yar Jung, the Chief Engineer of the Hyderabad Government, who had come on pilgrimage and had been in direct communication with high Saudi personages. He explained that the project was to light the whole of the Haram enclosure. My further action was delayed for extraneous reasons but on April 24th I addressed an official note to the Saudi Minister for Foreign Affairs, a copy of which I enclose.

2. While I was dealing with the electricity question, I received the Foreign Secretary's despatch No. F.32-H/36 of March 3rd conveying a further request from the Nizam's Government that permission should be obtained on their behalf to repair certain holy tombs at Medina. This seemed to me to require even greater circumspection than the earlier request, as few things connected with the Holy Cities have divided Moslem opinion so acutely in recent times as the attitude of the Saudi Arab Government in regard to the tombs in question. It is strongly held by extreme Wahhabis that the veneration of anything in the nature of a shrine is

/idolatrous,

His Excellency
The Viceroy of India, (Foreign & Political Department),
New Delhi.





(35)

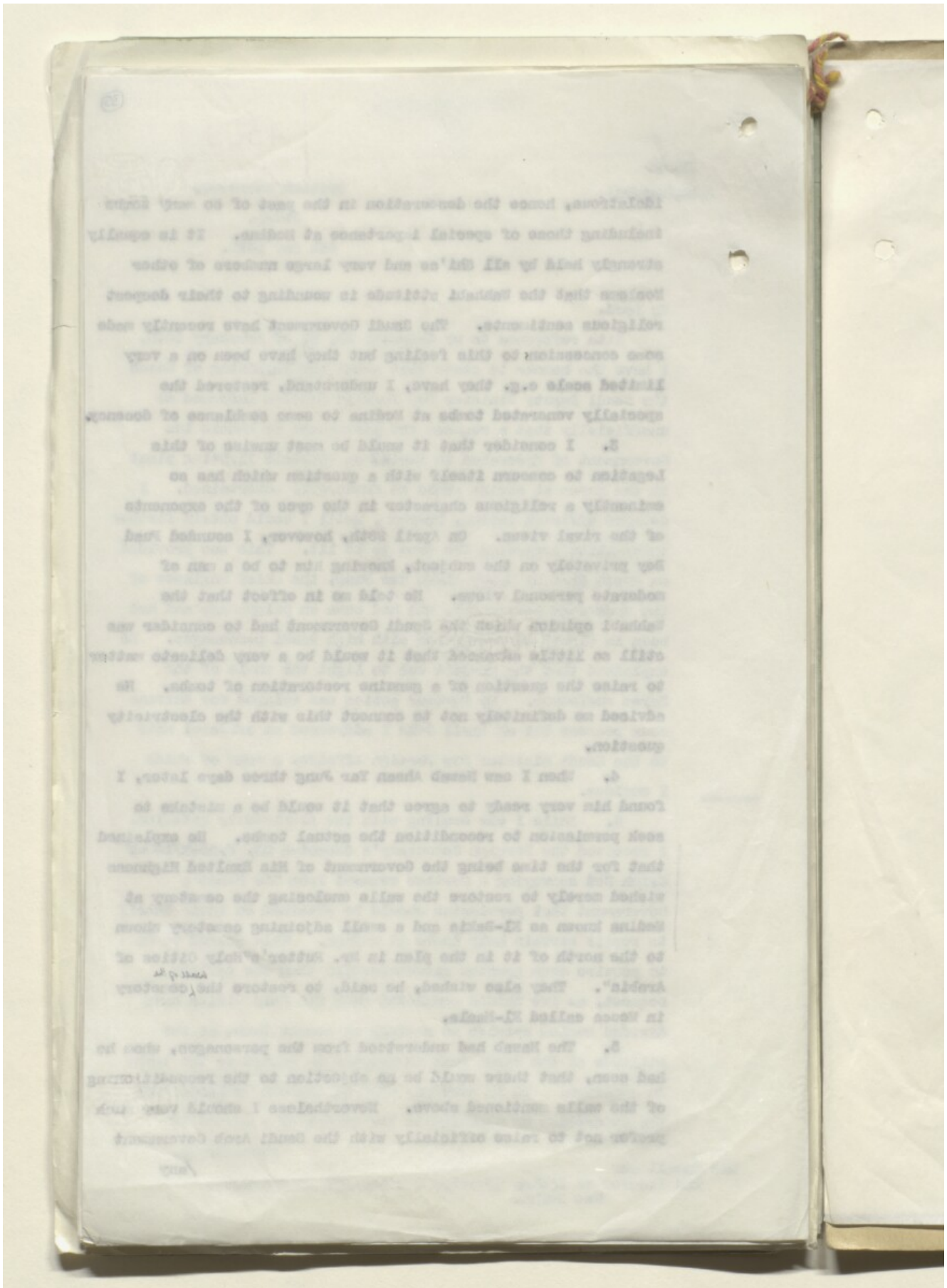
idolatrious, hence the desecration in the past of so many tombs including those of special importance at Medina. It is equally strongly held by all Shi'as and very large numbers of other Moslems that the Wahhabi attitude is wounding to their deepest religious sentiments. The Saudi Government have recently made some concessions to this feeling but they have been on a very limited scale e.g. they have, I understand, restored the specially venerated tombs at Medina to some semblance of decency.

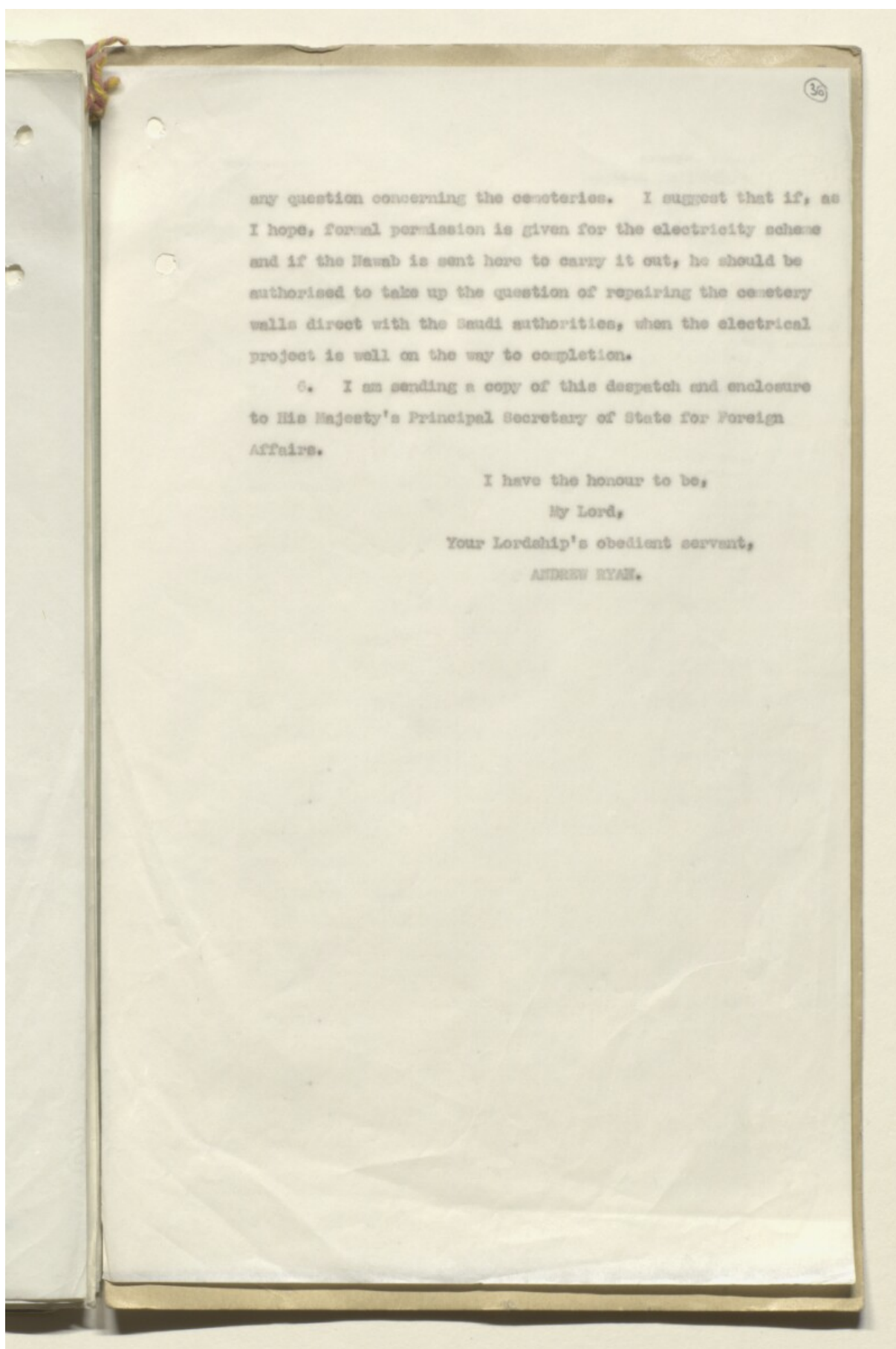
3. I consider that it would be most unwise of this Legation to concern itself with a question which has so eminently a religious character in the eyes of the exponents of the rival views. On April 28th, however, I sounded Fand Bey privately on the subject, knowing him to be a man of moderate personal views. He told me in effect that the Wahhabi opinion which the Saudi Government had to consider was still so little advanced that it would be a very delicate matter to raise the question of a genuine restoration of tombs. He advised me definitely not to connect this with the electricity question.

4. When I saw Nawab Ahsan Yar Jung three days later, I found him very ready to agree that it would be a mistake to seek permission to recondition the actual tombs. He explained that for the time being the Government of His Exalted Highness wished merely to restore the walls enclosing the cemetery at Medina known as El-Bakia and a small adjoining cemetery shown to the north of it in the plan in Mr. Sutter's "Holy Cities of Arabia". They also wished, he said, to restore the ^{wall of the} cemetery in Mecca called El-Masla.

5. The Nawab had understood from the personages, whom he had seen, that there would be no objection to the reconditioning of the walls mentioned above. Nevertheless I should very much prefer not to raise officially with the Saudi Arab Government

/any





any question concerning the cemeteries. I suggest that if, as I hope, formal permission is given for the electricity scheme and if the Nawab is sent here to carry it out, he should be authorised to take up the question of repairing the cemetery walls direct with the Saudi authorities, when the electrical project is well on the way to completion.

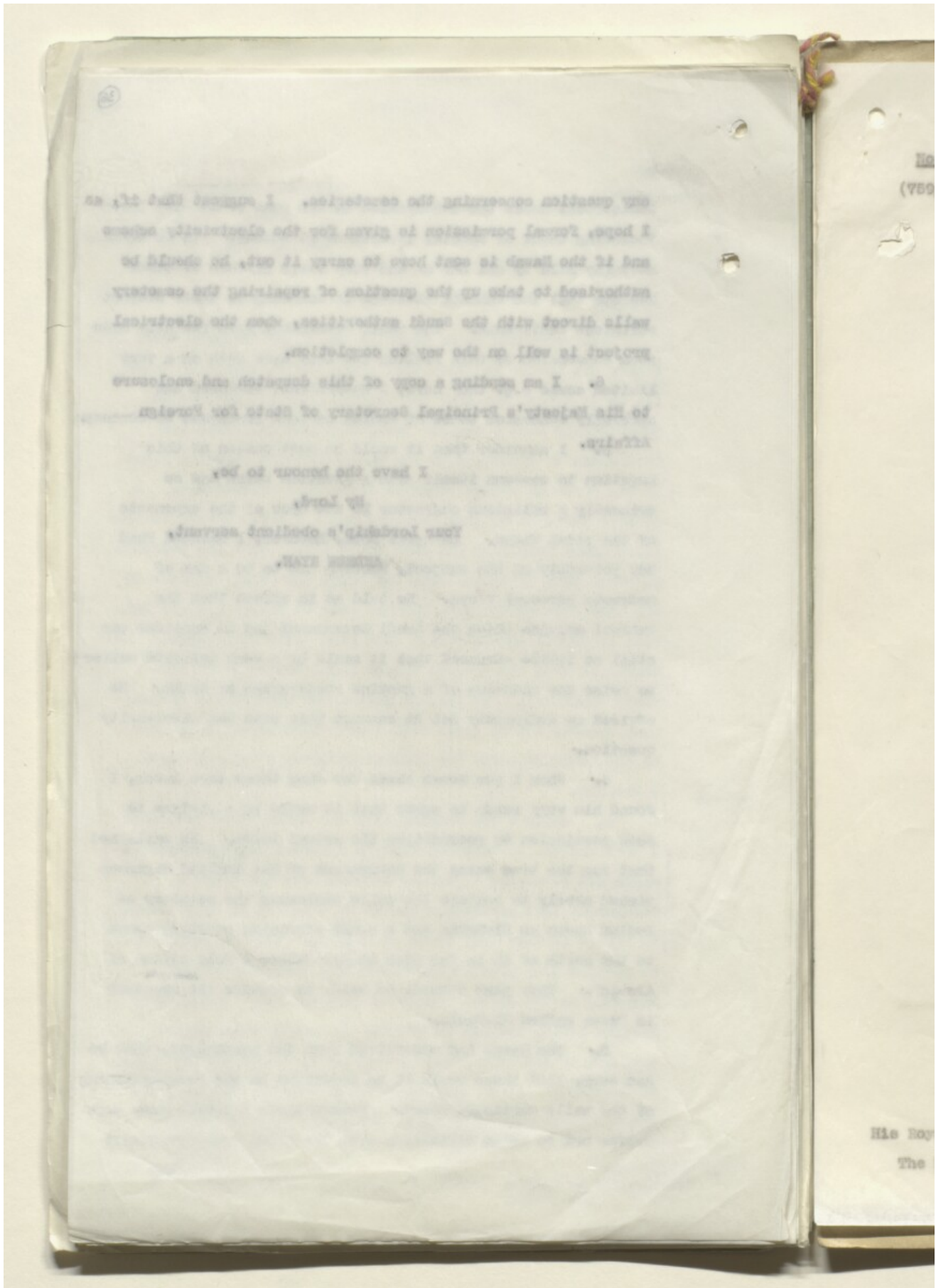
6. I am sending a copy of this despatch and enclosure to His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs.

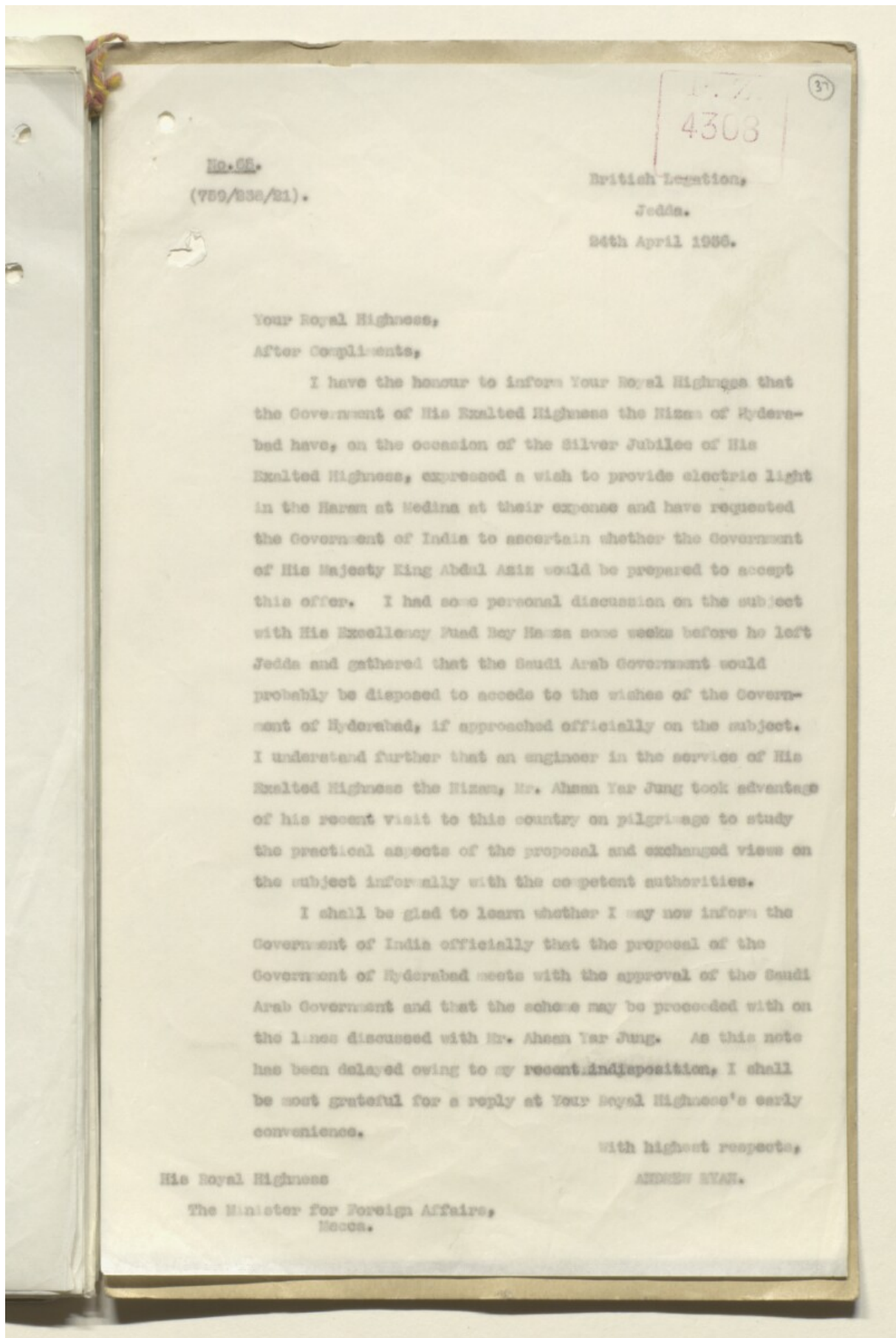
I have the honour to be,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's obedient servant,

ANDREW RYAN.





No. 55.
(759/838/21).

British Legation,
Jeddah.
24th April 1936.

Your Royal Highness,
After Compliments,

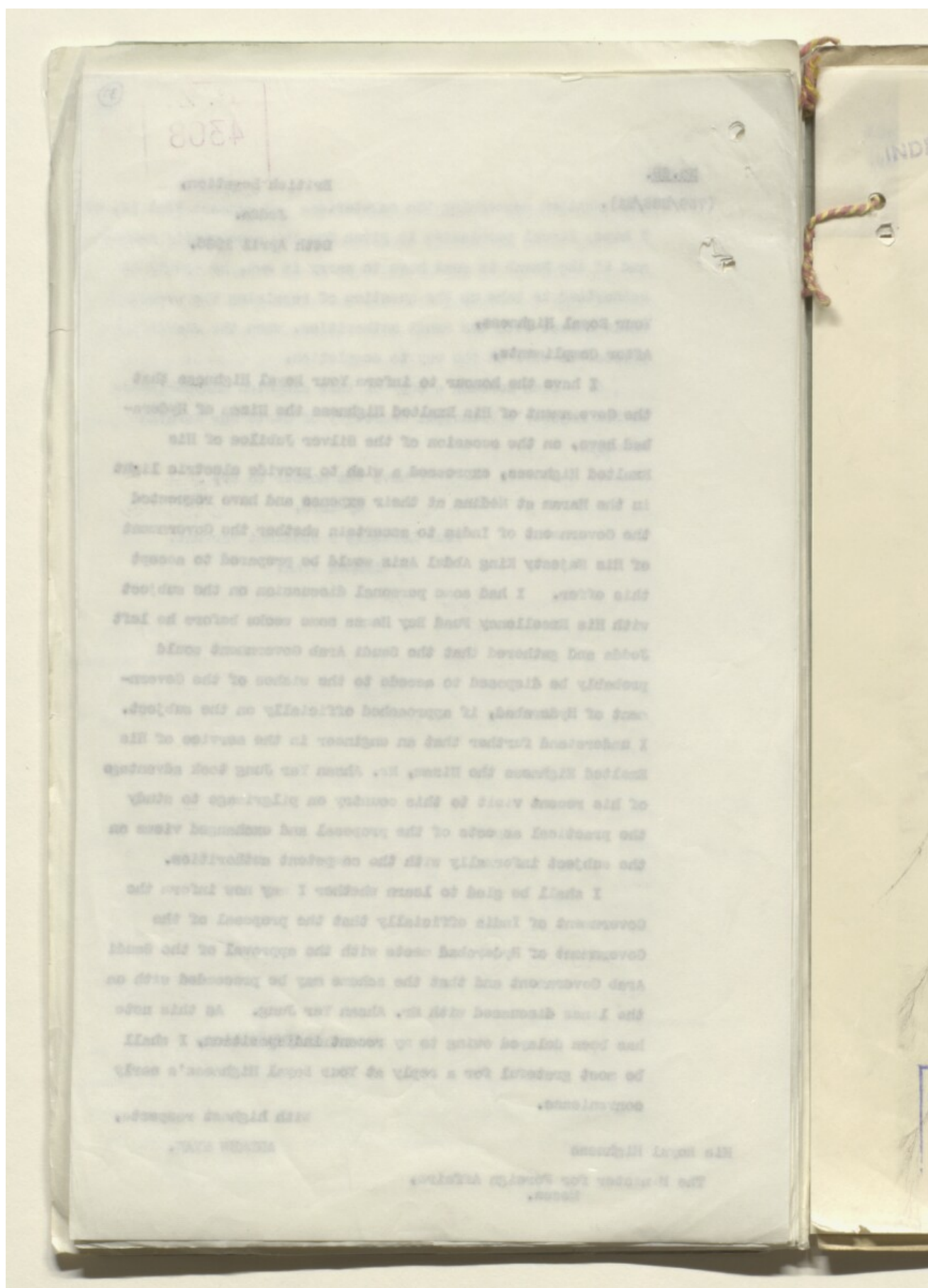
I have the honour to inform Your Royal Highness that the Government of His Exalted Highness the Nizam of Hyderabad have, on the occasion of the Silver Jubilee of His Exalted Highness, expressed a wish to provide electric light in the Haram at Medina at their expense and have requested the Government of India to ascertain whether the Government of His Majesty King Abdul Aziz would be prepared to accept this offer. I had some personal discussion on the subject with His Excellency Fued Bey Hassan some weeks before he left Jeddah and gathered that the Saudi Arab Government would probably be disposed to accede to the wishes of the Government of Hyderabad, if approached officially on the subject. I understand further that an engineer in the service of His Exalted Highness the Nizam, Mr. Ahsan Yar Jung took advantage of his recent visit to this country on pilgrimage to study the practical aspects of the proposal and exchanged views on the subject informally with the competent authorities.

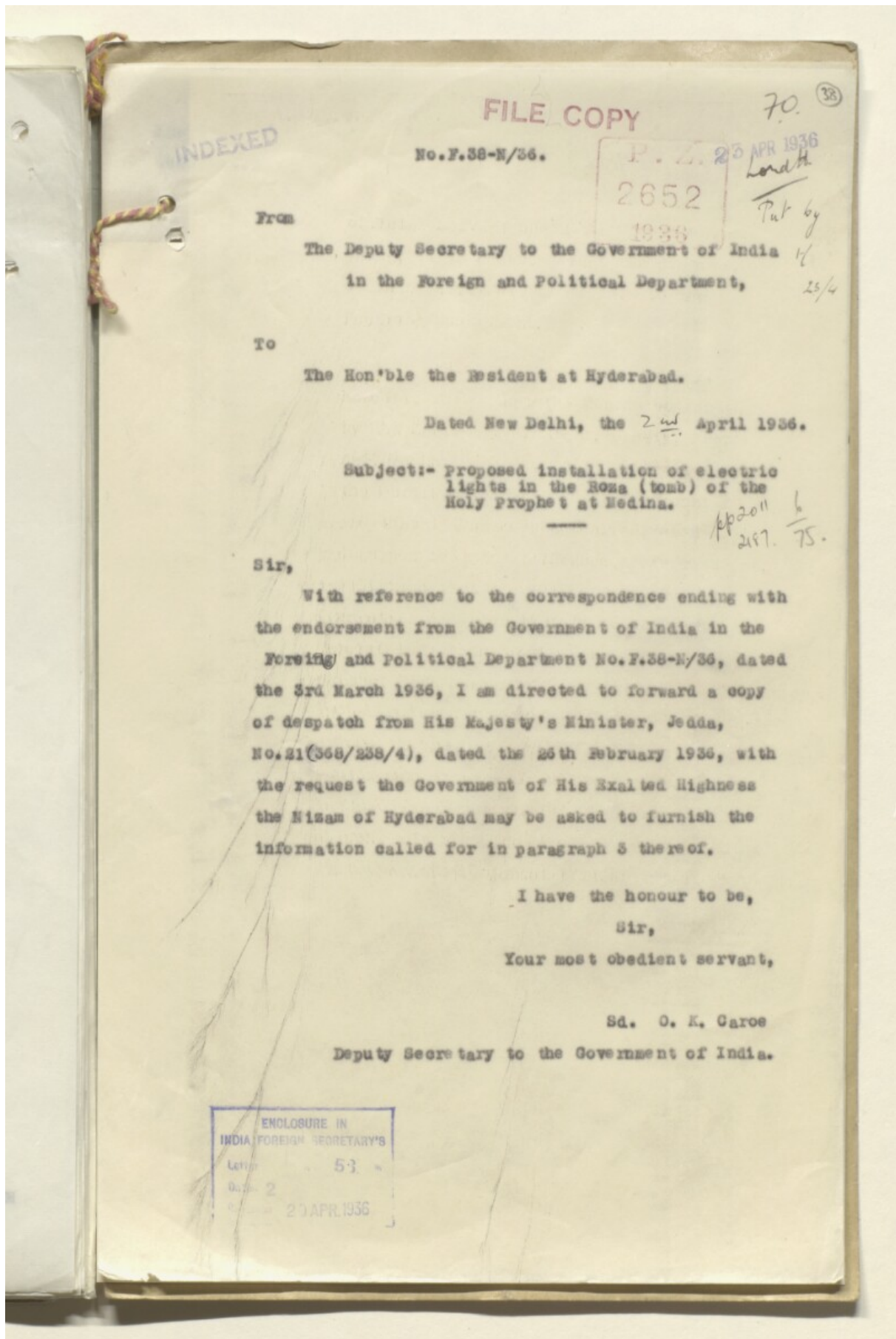
I shall be glad to learn whether I may now inform the Government of India officially that the proposal of the Government of Hyderabad meets with the approval of the Saudi Arab Government and that the scheme may be proceeded with on the lines discussed with Mr. Ahsan Yar Jung. As this note has been delayed owing to my recent indisposition, I shall be most grateful for a reply at Your Royal Highness's early convenience.

With highest respects,

His Royal Highness
The Minister for Foreign Affairs,
Mecca.

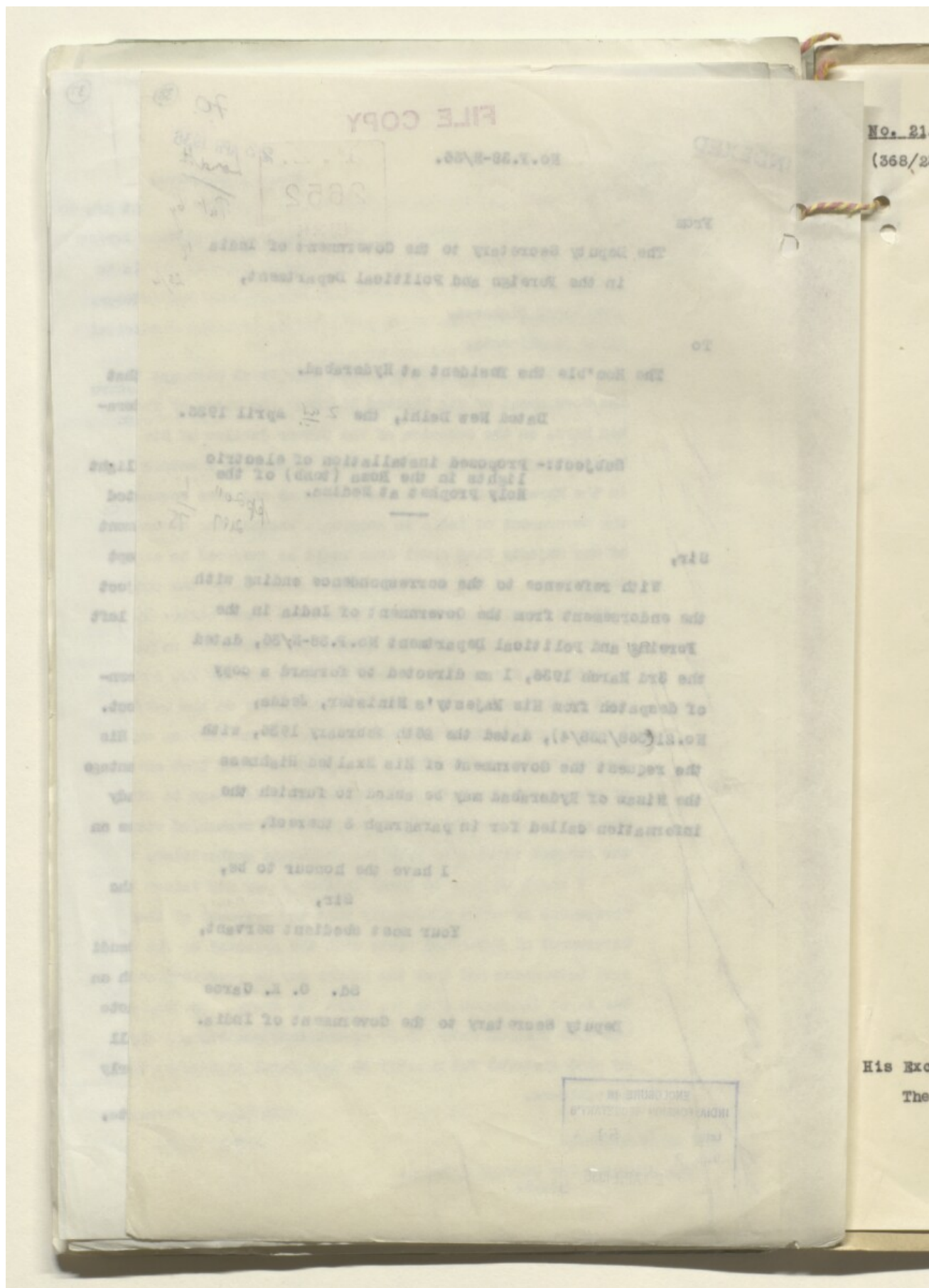
ANDREW RYAN.







Coll 6/75 'Institutions in Arabia receiving financial support from H.E.H. the
Nizam of Hyderabad.' [38v] (76/120)





No. 21.

(368/238/4)

British Legation,
Jedda.
26th February 1936.

My Lord,

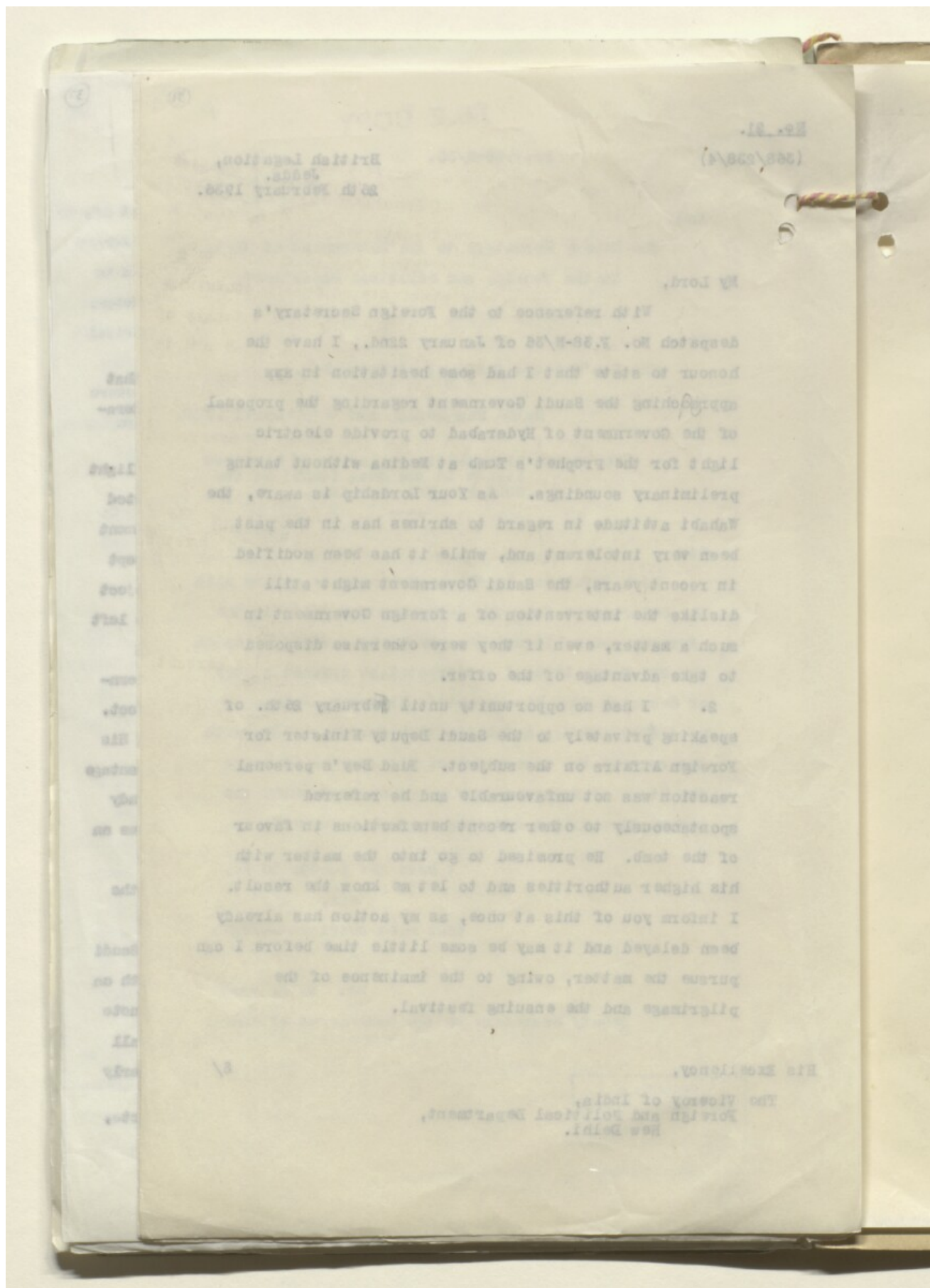
With reference to the Foreign Secretary's despatch No. F.38-N/36 of January 22nd., I have the honour to state that I had some hesitation in ~~app~~ approaching the Saudi Government regarding the proposal of the Government of Hyderabad to provide electric light for the Prophet's Tomb at Medina without taking preliminary soundings. As Your Lordship is aware, the Wahabi attitude in regard to shrines has in the past been very intolerant and, while it has been modified in recent years, the Saudi Government might still dislike the intervention of a foreign Government in such a matter, even if they were otherwise disposed to take advantage of the offer.

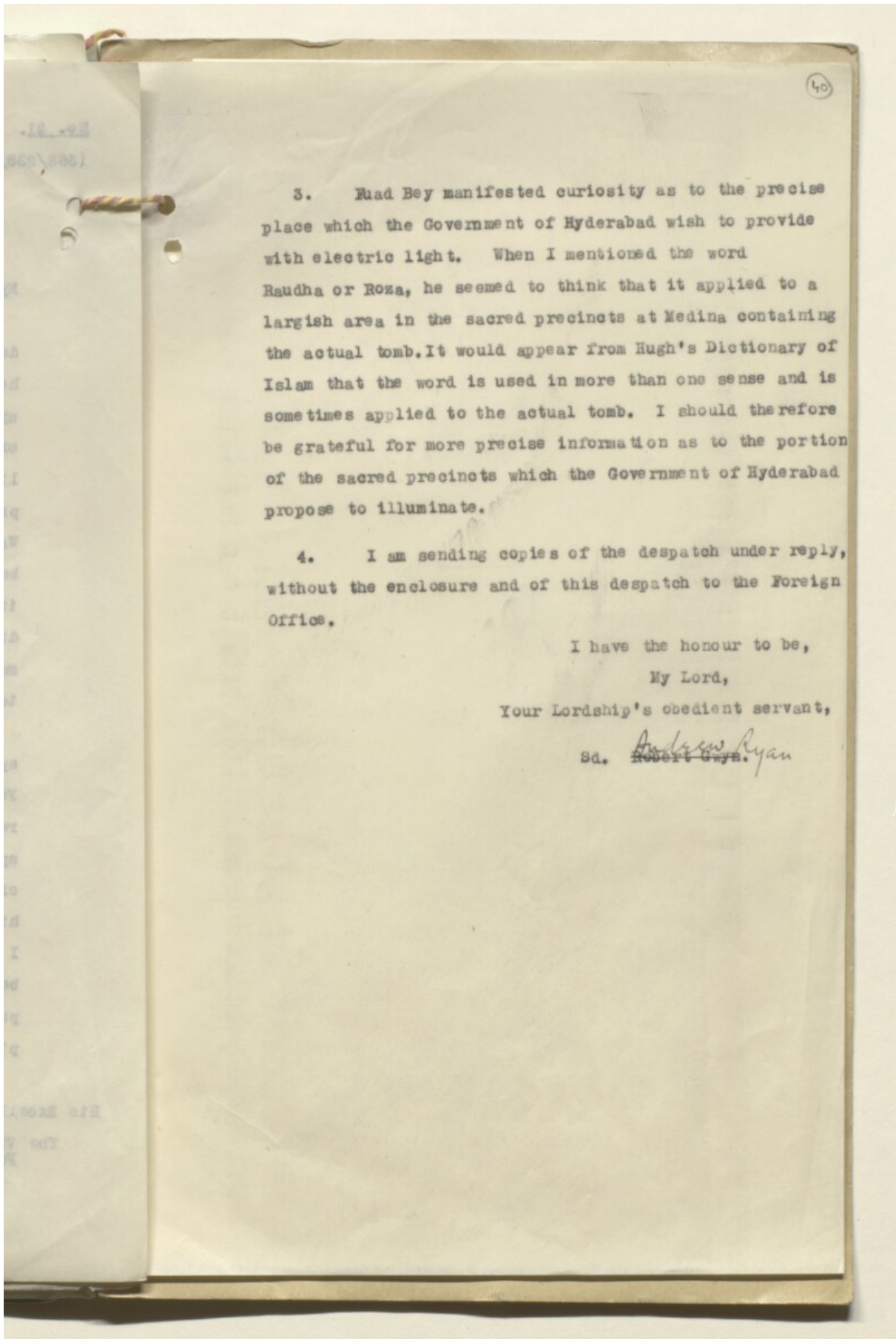
2. I had no opportunity until February 26th. of speaking privately to the Saudi Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs on the subject. Ruad Bey's personal reaction was not unfavourable and he referred spontaneously to other recent benefactions in favour of the tomb. He promised to go into the matter with his higher authorities and to let me know the result. I inform you of this at once, as my action has already been delayed and it may be some little time before I can pursue the matter, owing to the imminence of the pilgrimage and the ensuing festival.

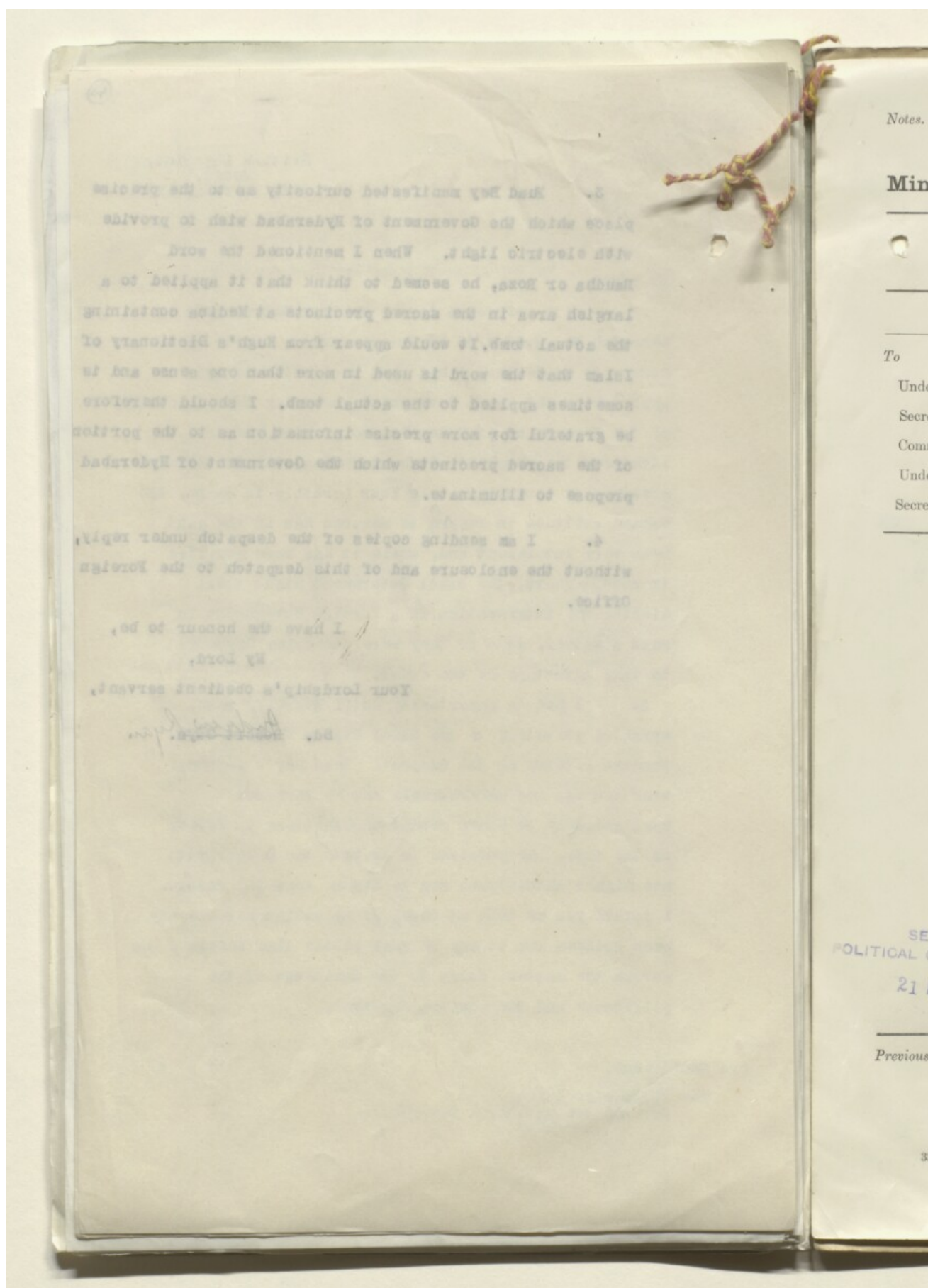
His Excellency,

The Viceroy of India,
Foreign and Political Department,
New Delhi.

3/









Notes.

Minute Paper.

Register No.
P. Z.
2187/36.

SECRET.
POLITICAL DEPARTMENT

Dated 193 .
Rec.

Date.	Initials.	SUBJECT.
To		
Under Secretary 4. 4.		
Secretary of State... 11		Proposal of Nizam of Hyderabad to
Committee..... 16. 4. 2.		instal electric light in Prophet's
Under Secretary.....		Tomb at Medina.
Secretary of State....		

Copy of _____ to _____

FOR INFORMATION.

In commemoration of the Nizam's Silver Jubilee, his Government apparently wish to instal an electric light system in the Roza (tomb) of the Prophet at Medina, and in addition to put in repair certain holy tombs which they understand are in a state of disrepair. Sir Andrew Ryan (with some trepidation, as the Wahibi attitude in regard to shrines has in the past been very intolerant) broached the matter with the Saudi Government, who appear to be sympathetic. Further enquiries are being made as to the exact area in the sacred precincts which is to be illuminated, and apparently the Chief Engineer and Secretary to the Nizam's Government in the Drainage Department has recently proceeded to Medina/

SEEN
POLITICAL COMMITTEE
21 APR 1936

Previous papers :—

3330 1000 12.34



Medina on a pilgrimage and has been commissioned
to prepare estimates for his Government.

Comments of Political Secy
(Internal) are on a separate
sheet below.

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2/4/36

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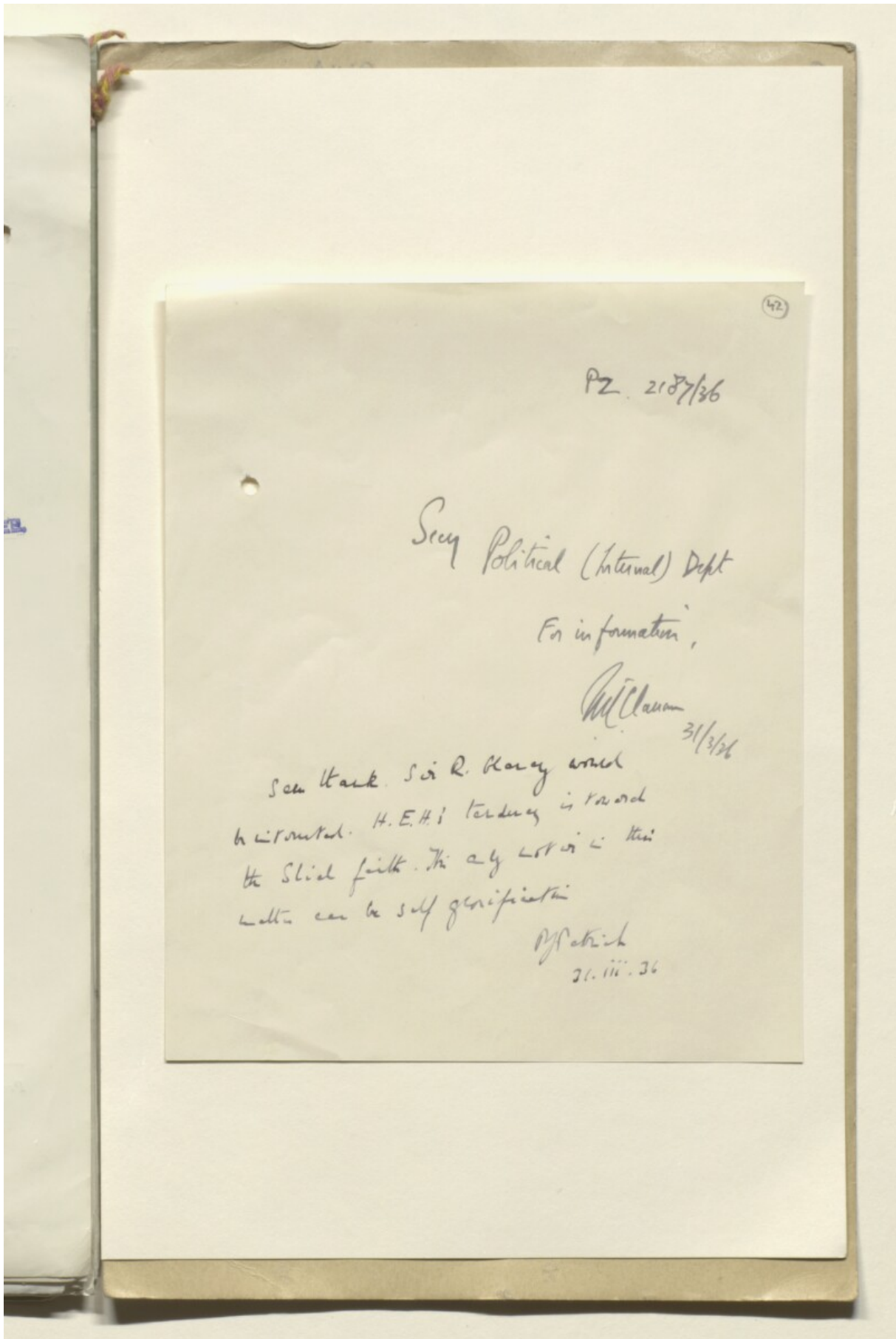
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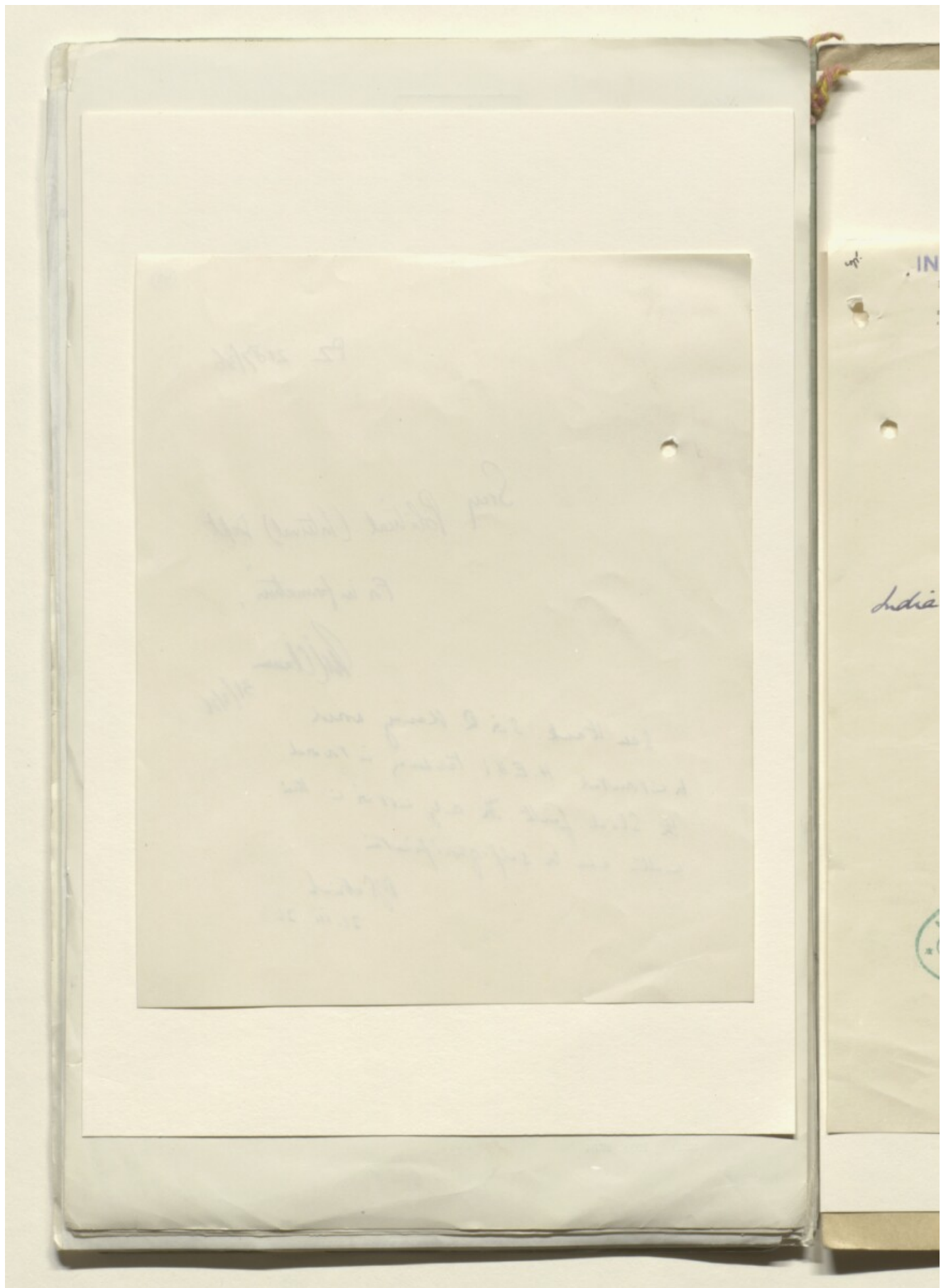
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SEEN
POLITICAL COMMITTEE

21 APR 1936







INDIA DIRECTOR (43)

INDEXED

In any further communication on this subject, please quote
No. *E 1531/837/25*
and address—not to any person by name, but to
"The Under-Secretary of State," Foreign Office, London, S.W. 1.

P. Z.
2187

1936

THE Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs presents his compliments to *the Under Secretary of State for India* and, by direction of the Secretary of State, transmits herewith copy of the under-mentioned paper.

Foreign Office,
March 30, 1936.

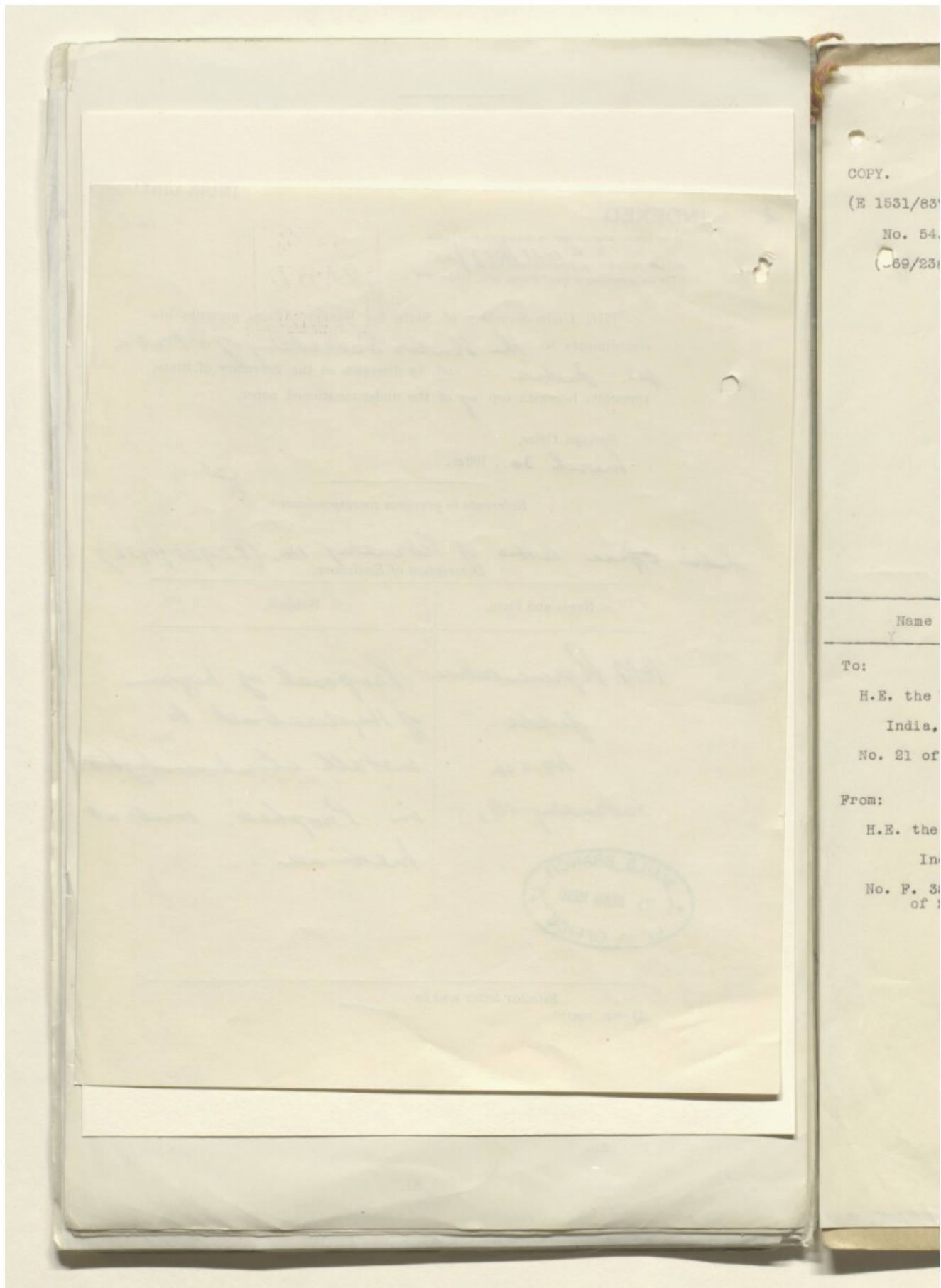
Reference to previous correspondence: *pp 2011. 6/75*

India Office letter of February 14, (P.Z. 988/1936)
Description of Enclosure.

Name and Date.	Subject.
<i>H.M. Representative Jedda. no. 54. February 26,</i>	<i>Proposal of Nizam of Hyderabad to install electric light in Prophet's tomb at Medina.</i>

MAILS BRANCH
31 MAR 1936
INDIA OFFICE

Similar letter sent to
14-6130 12343 (2)





44r

P. Z.
2187
1936

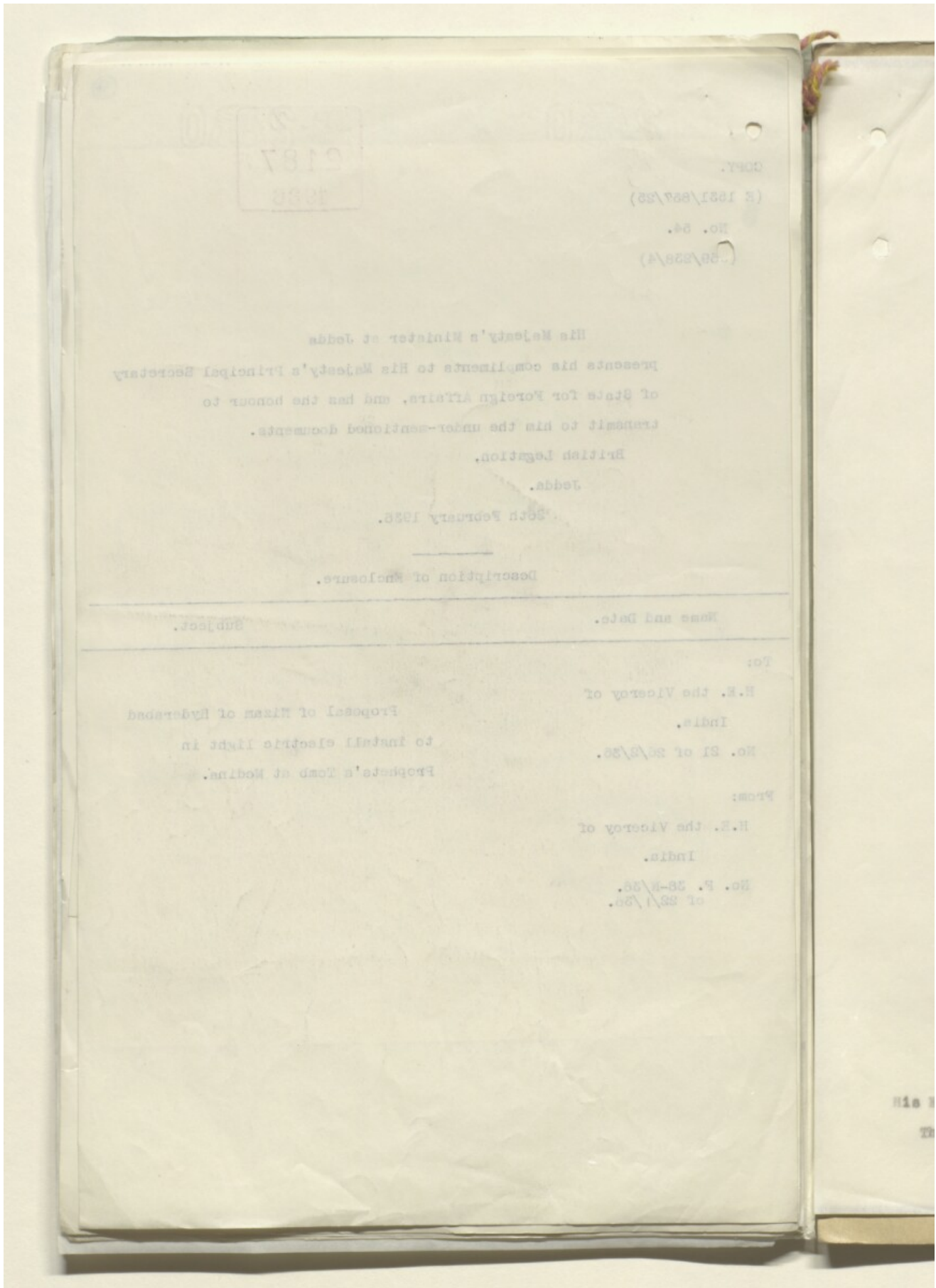
COPY.
(E 1531/837/25)
No. 54.
(-69/238/4)

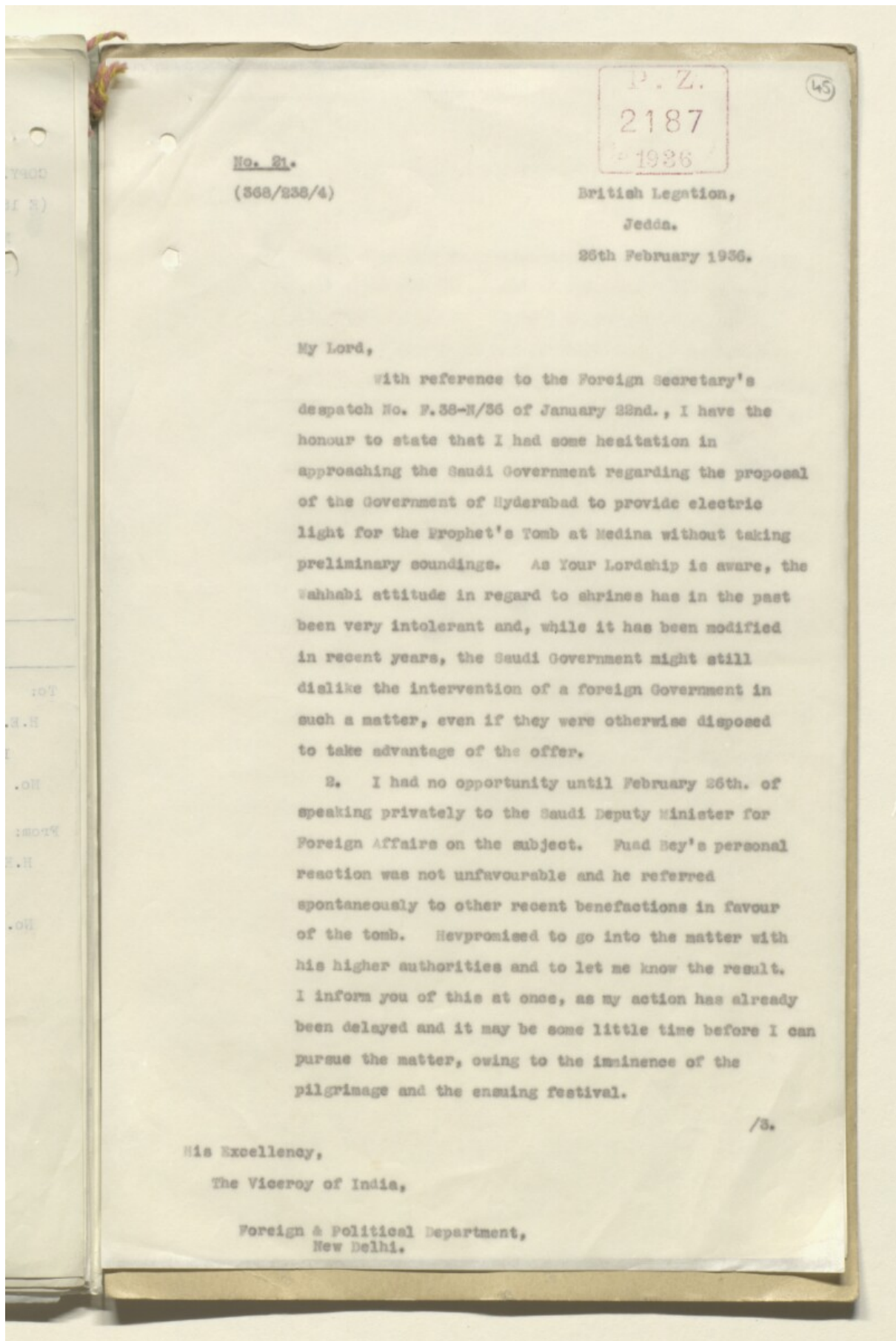
His Majesty's Minister at Jedda
presents his compliments to His Majesty's Principal Secretary
of State for Foreign Affairs, and has the honour to
transmit to him the under-mentioned documents.

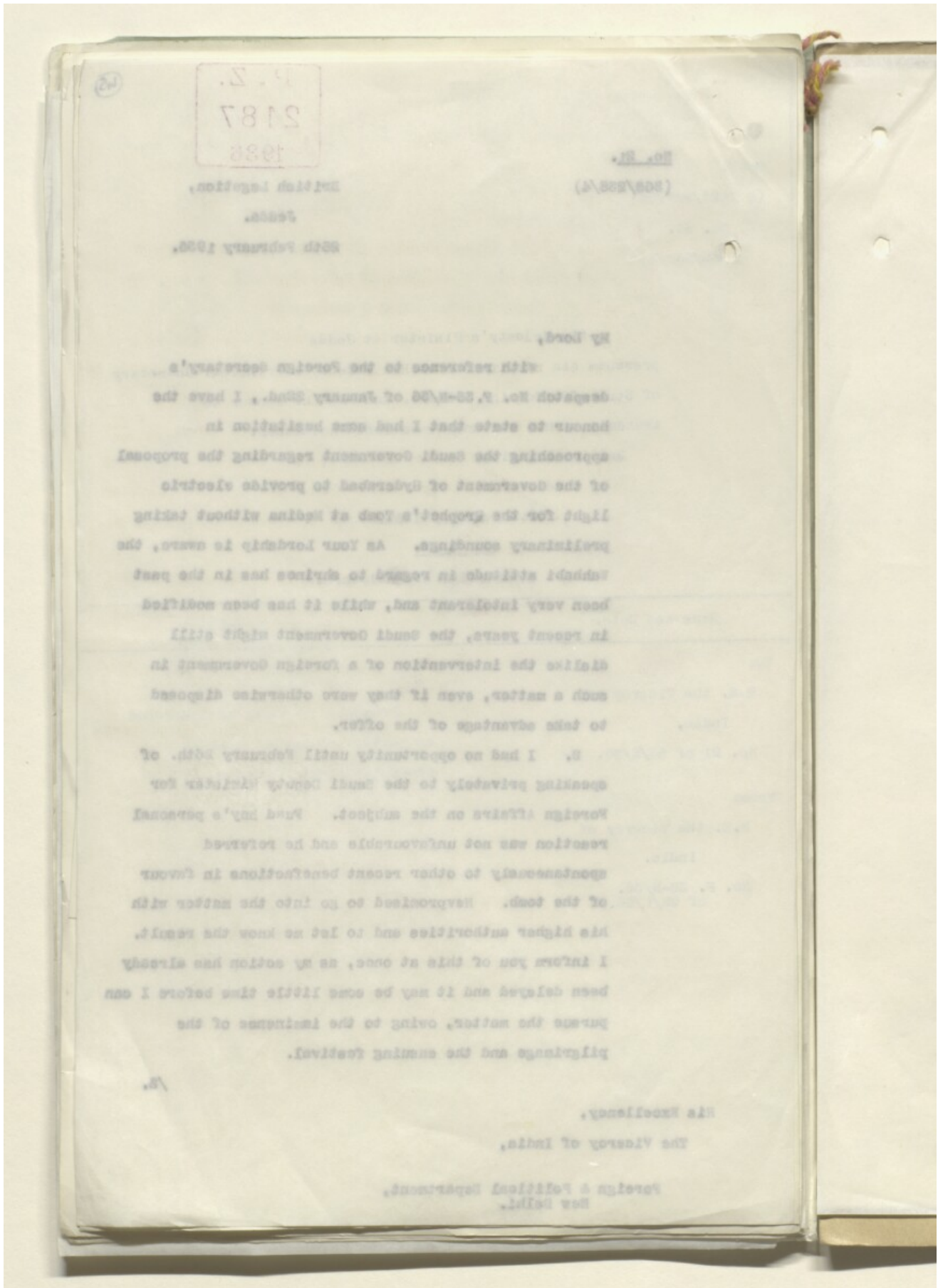
British Legation,
Jedda.
26th February 1936.

Description of Enclosure.

Name and Date.	Subject.
To: H.E. the Viceroy of India, No. 21 of 26/2/36.	Proposal of Nizam of Hyderabad to install electric light in Prophets's Tomb at Medina.
From: H.E. the Viceroy of India. No. P. 38-N/36. of 22/1/36.	









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3. Fuad Bey manifested curiosity as to the precise place which the Government of Hyderabad wish to provide with electric light. When I mentioned the word Raudha or Rosa, he seemed to think that it applied to a largish area in the sacred precincts at Medina containing the actual tomb. It would appear from Hugh's Dictionary of Islam that the word is used in more than one sense and ~~it is~~ sometimes applied to the actual tomb. I should therefore be grateful for more precise information as to the portion of the sacred precincts which the Government of Hyderabad propose to illuminate.

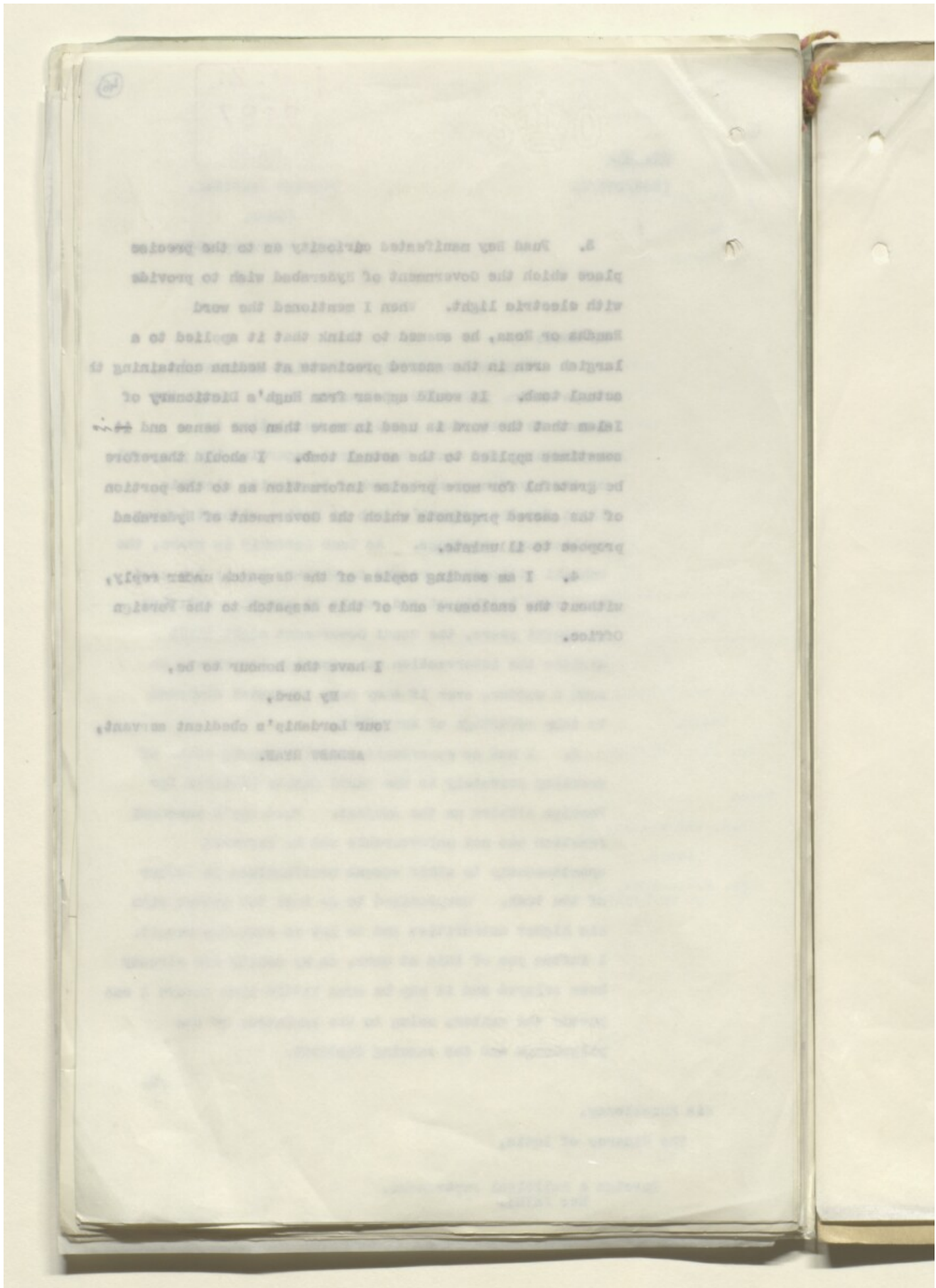
4. I am sending copies of the despatch under reply, without the enclosure and of this despatch to the Foreign Office.

I have the honour to be,

My Lord,

Your Lordship's obedient servant,

ANDREW RYAN.





47
COPY.

No. F. 38-N/36.

From

The Foreign Secretary to the Government of India
in the Foreign and Political Department.

To

His Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary and Minister
Plenipotentiary in the Dominions of His
Majesty the King of Saudi Arabia, Jeddah.

Dated New Delhi, the 22nd January '36.

Subject : Proposal of His Exalted Highness the
Nizam's Government to install electric
lights in the Roza (tomb) of the Holy
Prophet at Medina.

Sir,

I am directed to forward a copy of a letter
from the Honourable the Resident at Hyderabad, No. 307-P/F.
694-35, dated the 9th January 1936, and to say that if you
see no objection the permission sought by His Exalted
Highness the Nizam's Government to the proposed
installation of an electric light system in the Roza (tomb)
of the Prophet at Medina, may kindly be obtained from the
Saudi Arab Government.

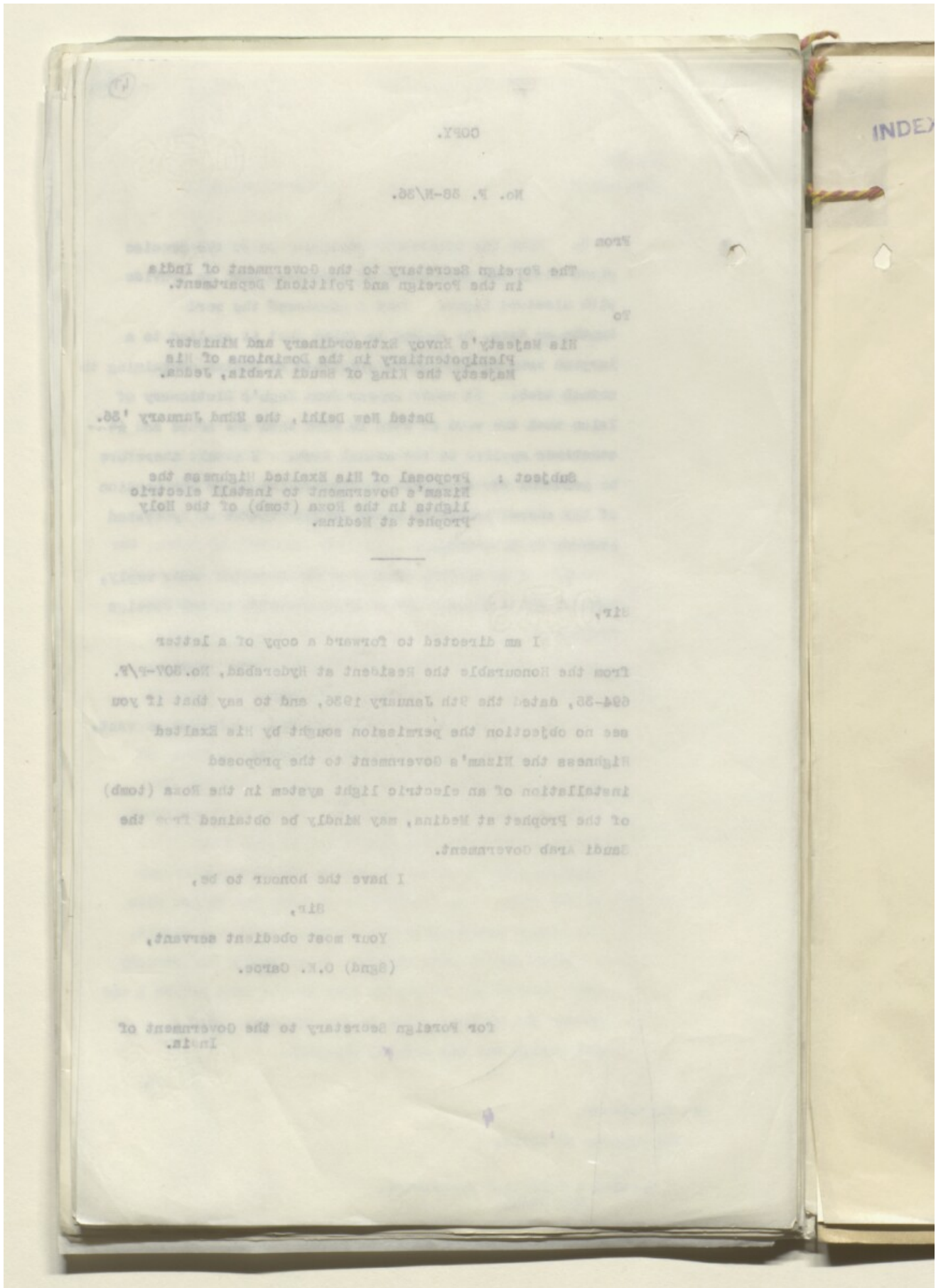
I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Sgnd) O.K. Caroe.

for Foreign Secretary to the Government of
India.





INDEXED

FILE COPY

No. F.38-N/36.

P. Z.

2011

1936

42 Lord Hood

27 MAR 1936

1. Copy to Eo

2. Put by H. 26/3

From

The Foreign Secretary to the Government of India,

To

His Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary in the Dominions of His Majesty the King of Sa'udi Arabia, Jeddah.

Dated New Delhi, the 3rd March 1936.

Subject:- Proposal of His Exalted Highness the Nizam's Government to repair certain holy tombs, and also to install electric lights in the Roza (tomb) of the Holy Prophet at Medina.

Sir,

In continuation of letter from the Government of India in the Foreign and Political Department No. F.38-N/36, dated the 22nd January 1936, I am directed to forward a further letter from the Hon'ble the Resident at Hyderabad No. 1491-F/E.694-36, dated the 15th February 1936, and to request that should you see no objection, the Sa'udi Government may be approached for their sanction to the requests contained therein.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

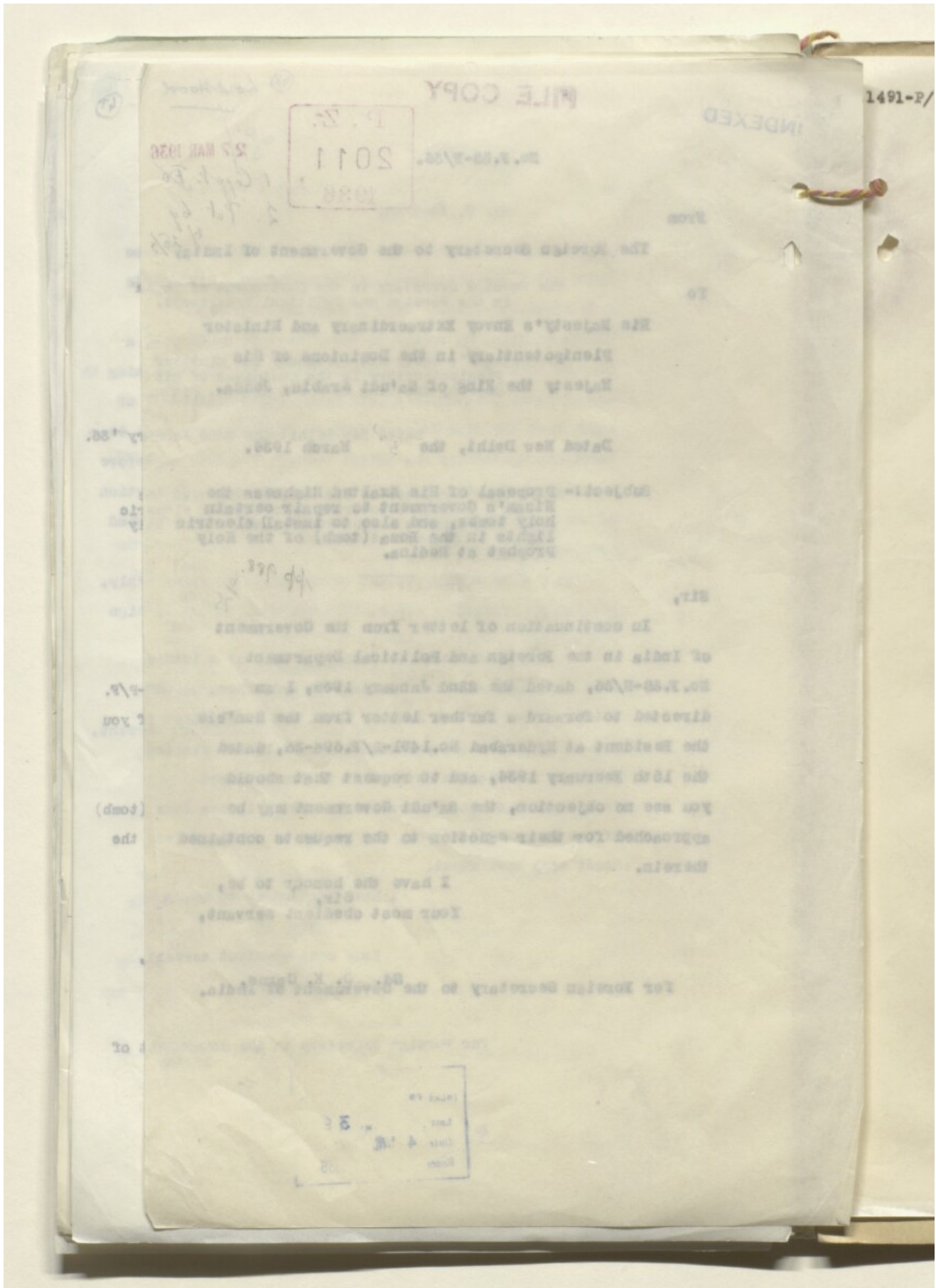
Sd. O. K. Garo
for Foreign Secretary to the Government of India.

INDEXED

Let

Date 4 MAR 1936

Recd





1491-P/F.694-35.

From

The Hon'ble Mr. D. G. Mackenzie, C.I.E., I.C.S.,
RESIDENT AT HYDERABAD.

To

The Political Secretary to the Government of India
in the Foreign and Political Department, New Delhi

Dated Hyderabad Residency, the 15th February 1936.

Subject:- Proposal of H.E.H. the Nizam's Government
to install electric lights in the Roza (tomb)
of the Holy Prophet at Medina.

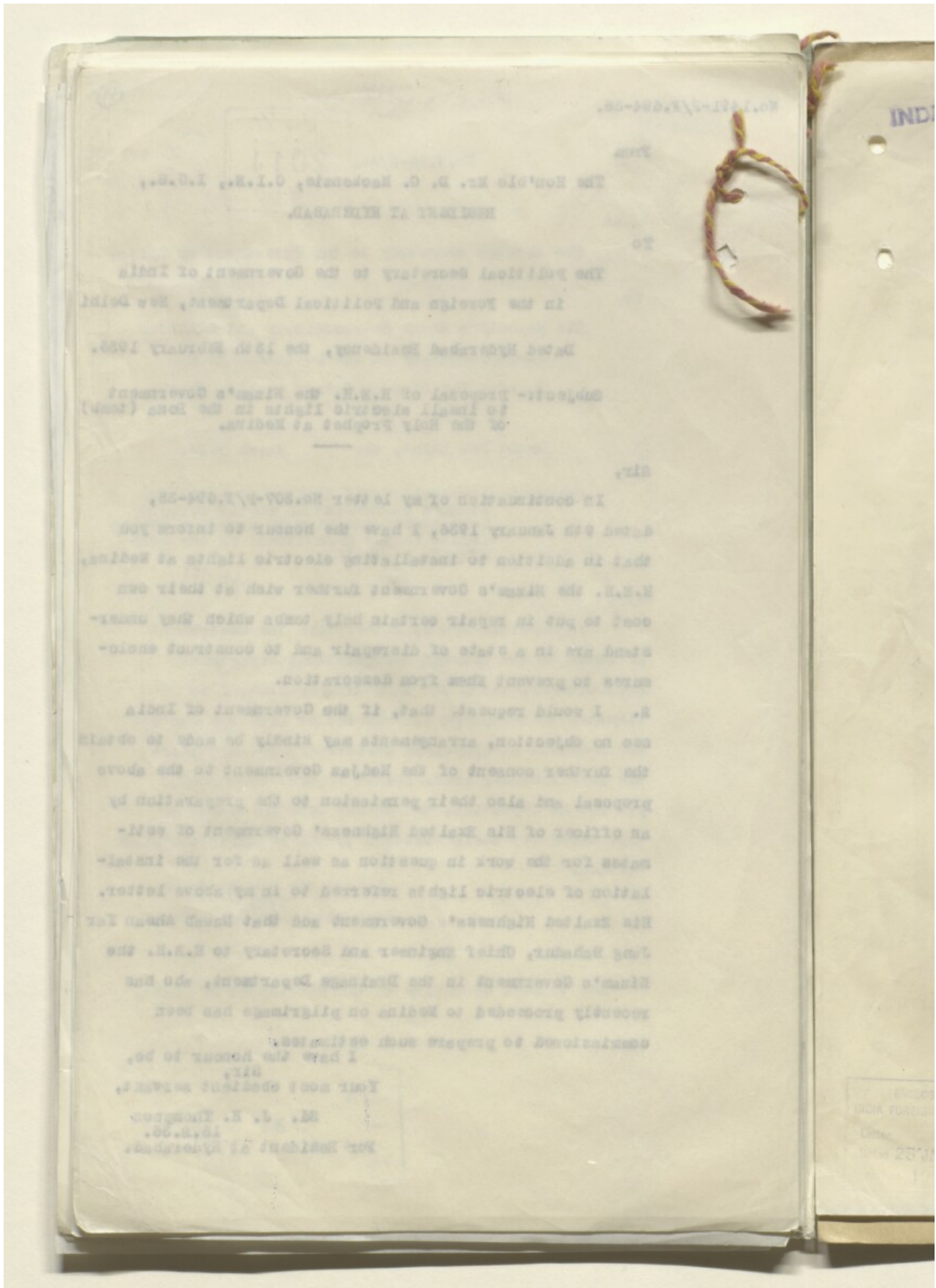
Sir,

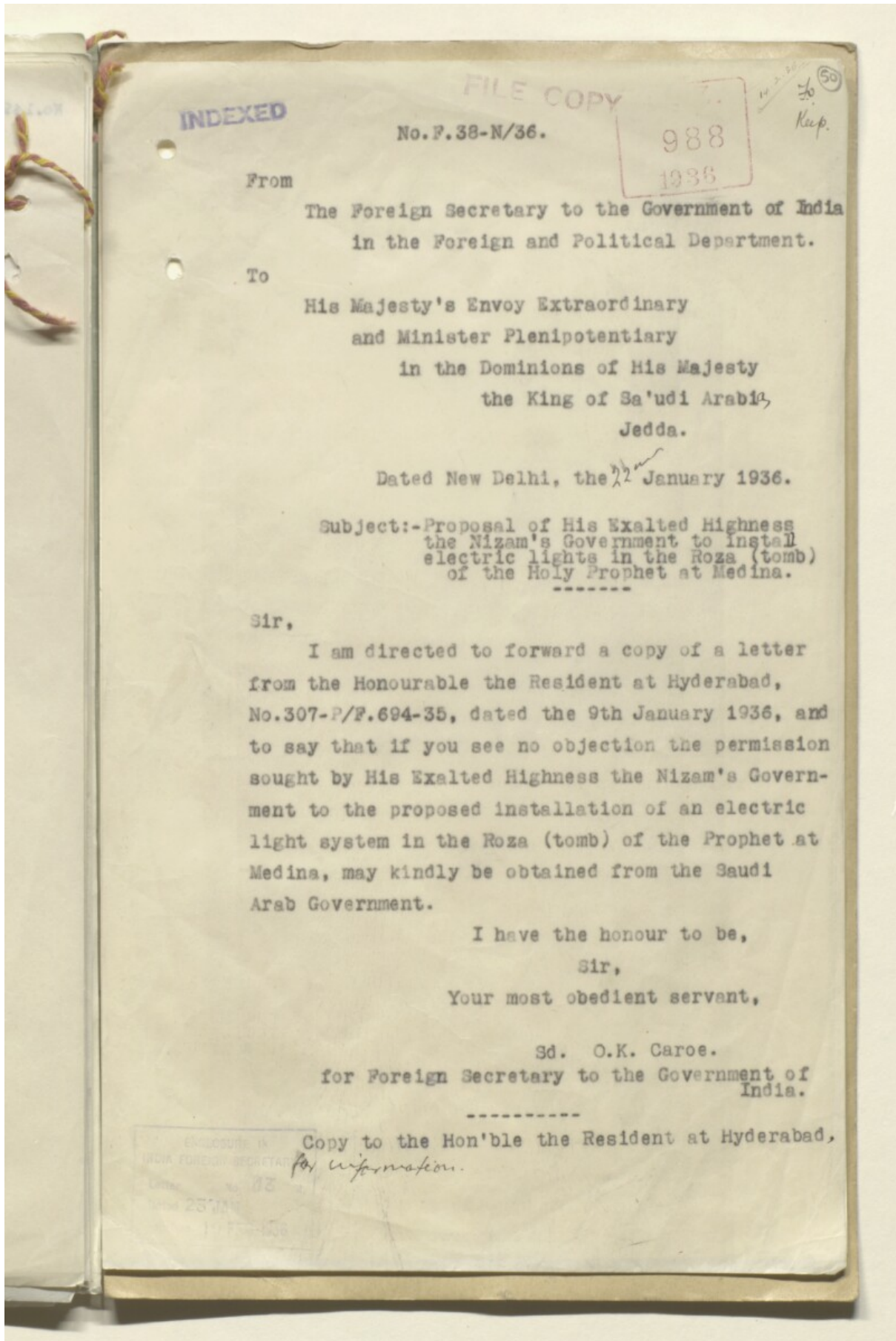
In continuation of my letter No.307-P/F.694-35,
dated 9th January 1936, I have the honour to inform you
that in addition to installing electric lights at Medina,
H.E.H. the Nizam's Government further wish at their own
cost to put in repair certain holy tombs which they under-
stand are in a state of disrepair and to construct enclo-
sures to prevent them from desecration.

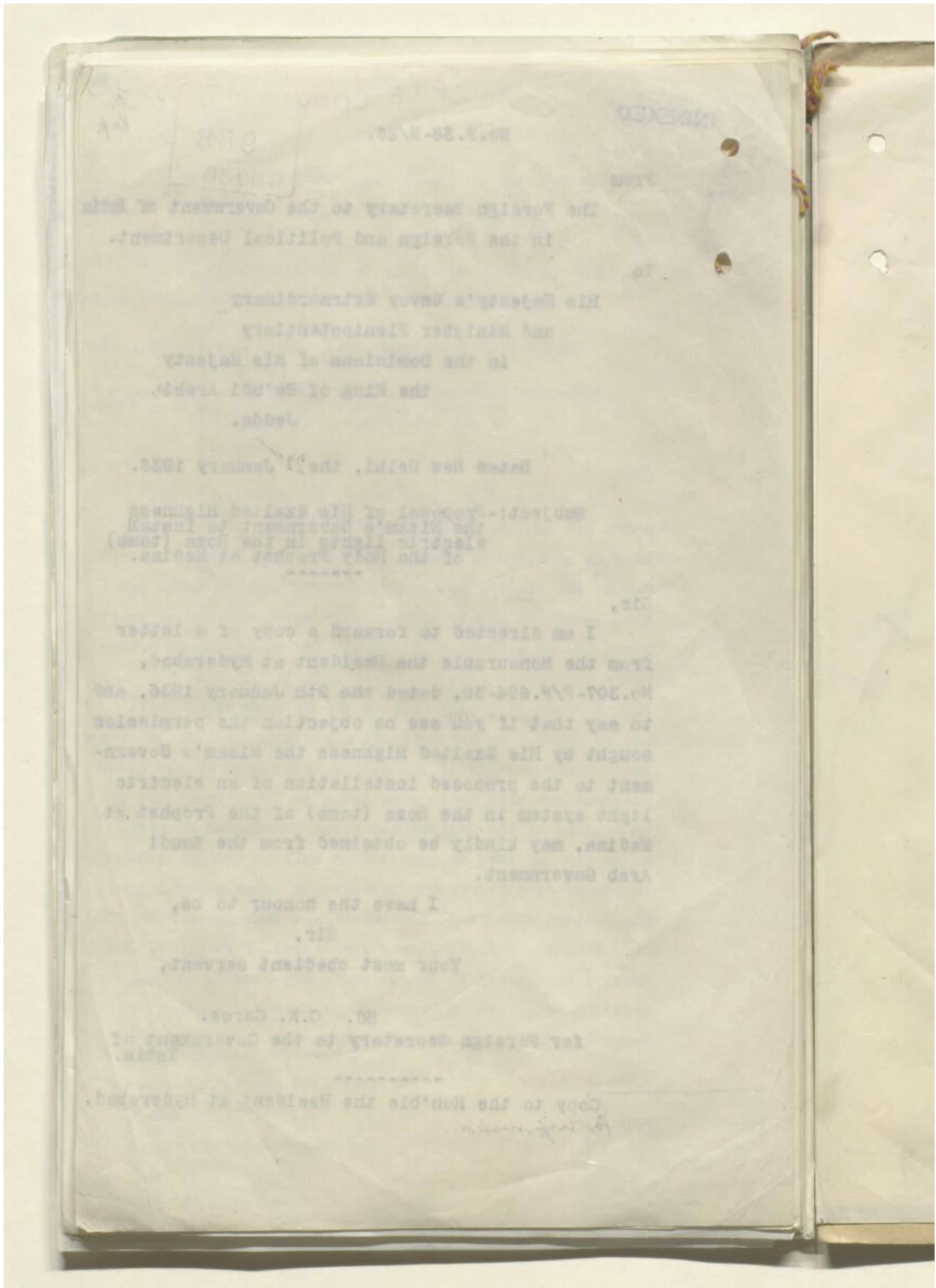
2. I would request that, if the Government of India
see no objection, arrangements may kindly be made to obtain
the further consent of the Hedjaz Government to the above
proposal and also their permission to the preparation by
an officer of His Exalted Highness' Government of esti-
mates for the work in question as well as for the instal-
lation of electric lights referred to in my above letter.
His Exalted Highness' Government add that Nawab Ahsan Yar
Jang Bahadur, Chief Engineer and Secretary to H.E.H. the
Nizam's Government in the Drainage Department, who has
recently proceeded to Medina on pilgrimage has been
commissioned to prepare such estimates.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

Sd. J. H. Thompson
15.2.36.
For Resident at Hyderabad.







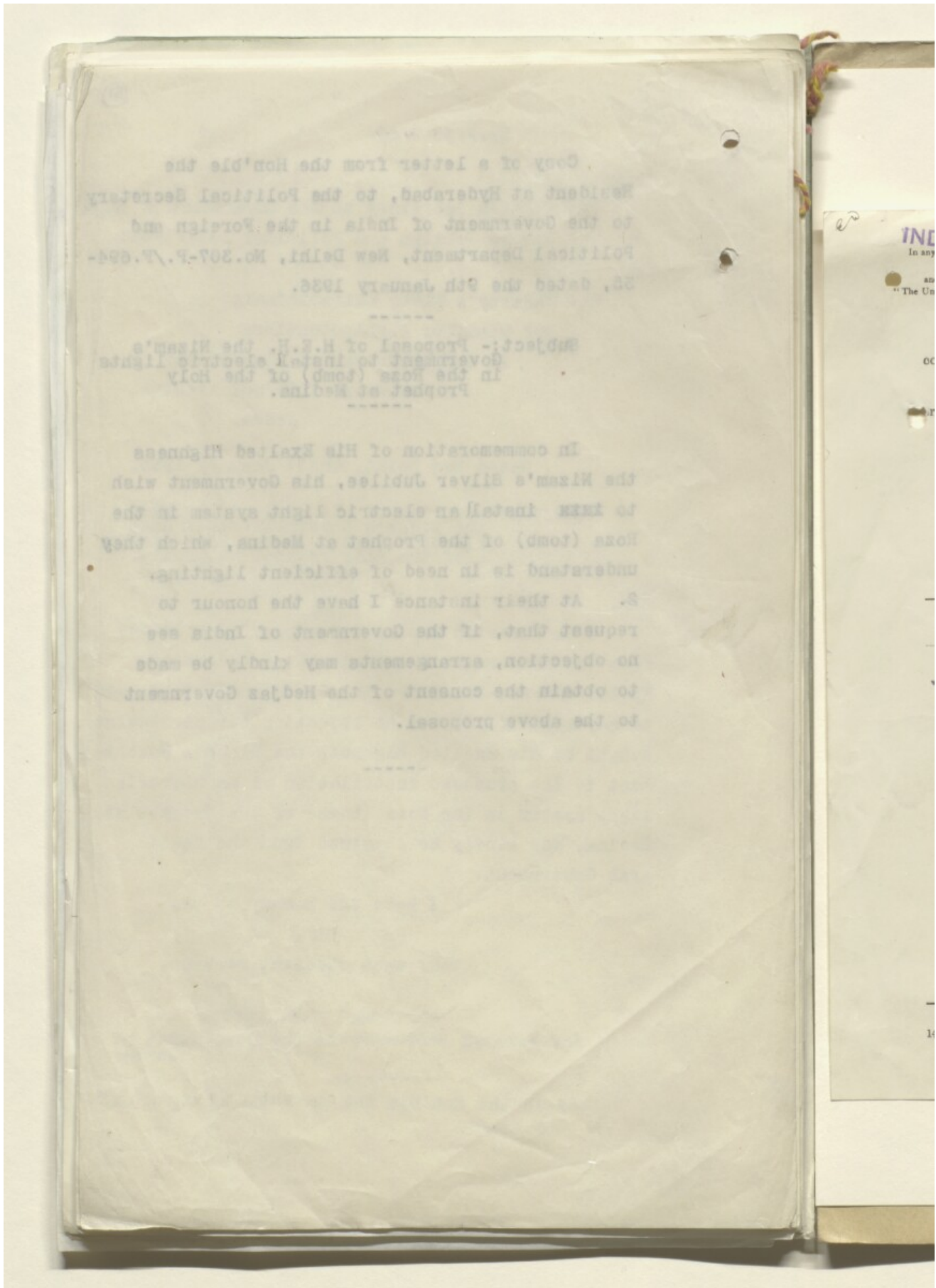


Copy of a letter from the Hon'ble the
Resident at Hyderabad, to the Political Secretary
to the Government of India in the Foreign and
Political Department, New Delhi, No.307-P./F.694-
35, dated the 9th January 1936.

Subject:- Proposal of H.E.H. the Nizam's
Government to install electric lights
in the Roza (tomb) of the Holy
Prophet at Medina.

In commemoration of His Exalted Highness
the Nizam's Silver Jubilee, his Government wish
to ~~xxxx~~ install an electric light system in the
Roza (tomb) of the Prophet at Medina, which they
understand is in need of efficient lighting.

2. At their instance I have the honour to
request that, if the Government of India see
no objection, arrangements may kindly be made
to obtain the consent of the Hedjaz Government
to the above proposal.





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INDEXED
In any further communication on this subject, please quote
No. 6035/443/25
and address—not to any person by name, but to—
"The Under-Secretary of State," Foreign Office, London, S.W. 1.

P.Z.
6456
1931

52

THE Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs presents his compliments to *the Under-Secretary of State for India* and, by direction of the Secretary of State, transmits herewith copies of the under-mentioned paper.

Foreign Office,
10th October, 1931.

Reference to previous correspondence :

Description of Enclosure.

Name and Date.	Subject.
<i>Imm. Representative, Jedda no 364 of 12th Sept</i>	<i>Alleged interference of Hajazi authorities with religious instruction given at Hanafi School at Medina supported by Nizam of Hyderabad.</i>

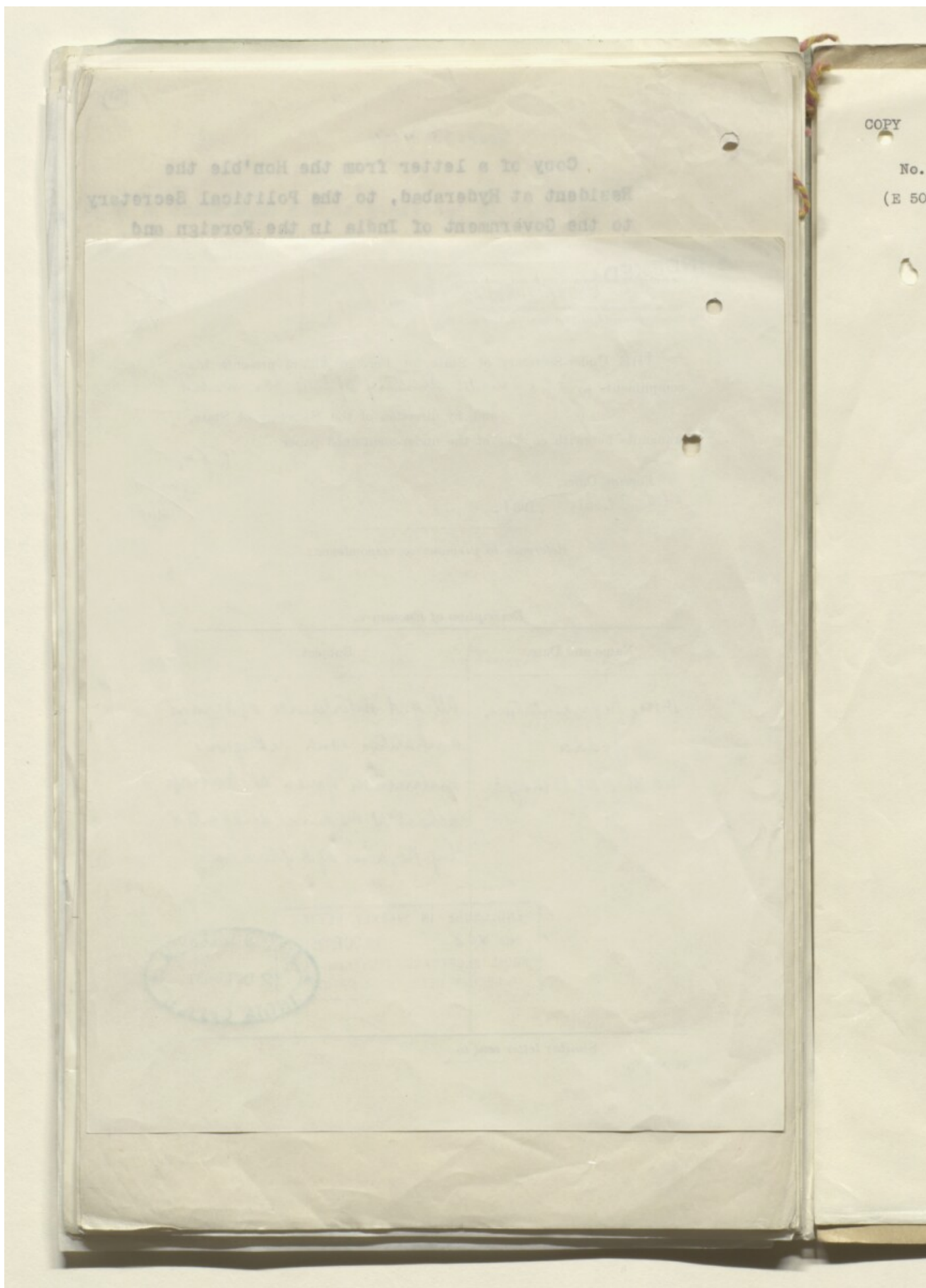
ENCLOSURE IN WEEKLY LETTER
No. *42* 15 OCT. 1931
FROM SECRETARY, POLITICAL AND
SECRET DEPT. INDIA OFFICE

12 OCT 1931

INDIA OFFICE

Similar letter sent to ✓

14-5901 (2)



COPY

No.

(E 503)



(53)

COPY

No. 367.
(E 5035/4173/25)

P.Z.
6456
1931

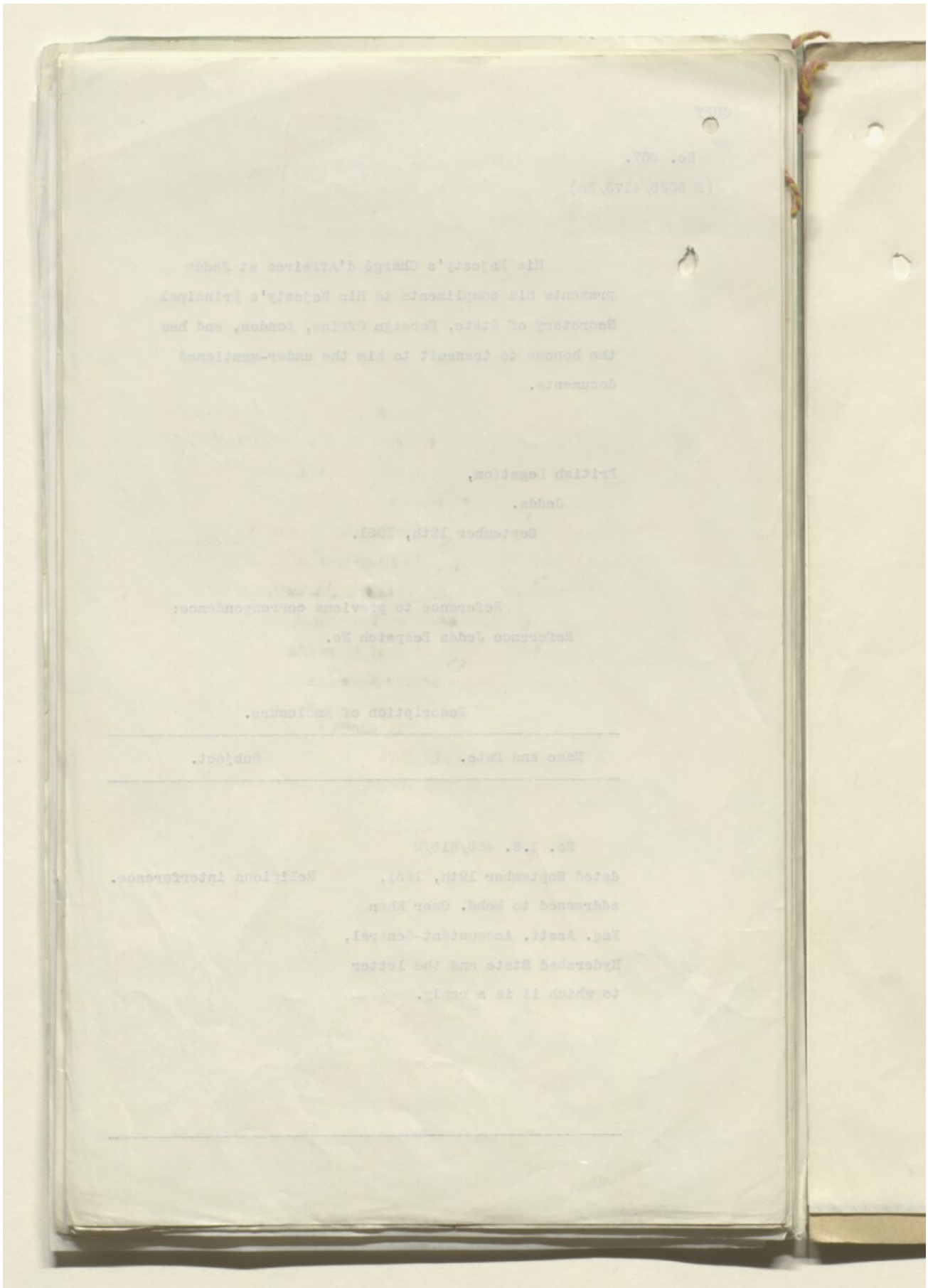
His Majesty's Chargé d'Affaires at Jedda
presents his compliments to His Majesty's Principal
Secretary of State, Foreign Office, London, and has
the honour to transmit to him the under-mentioned
documents.

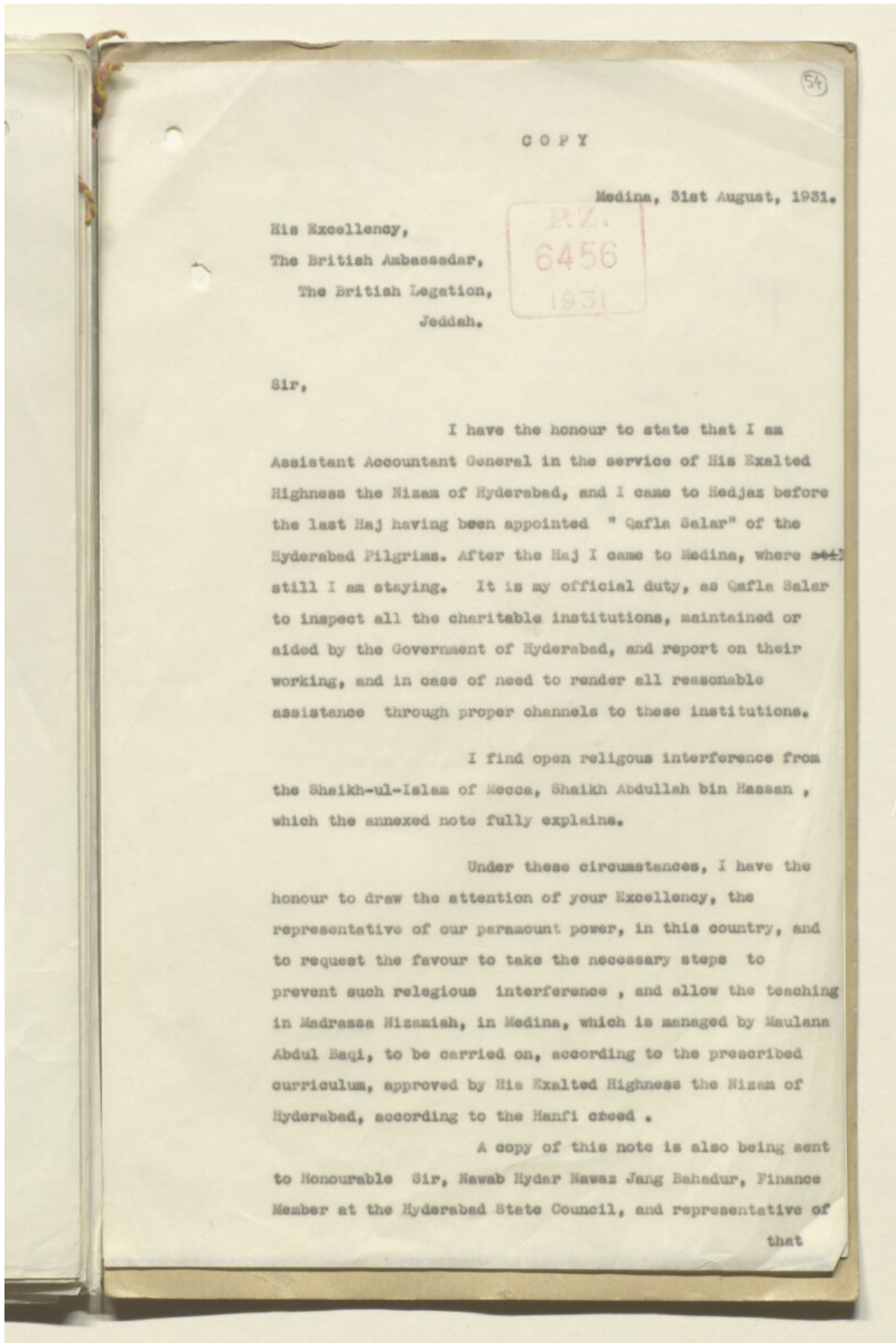
British Legation,
Jedda.
September 12th, 1931.

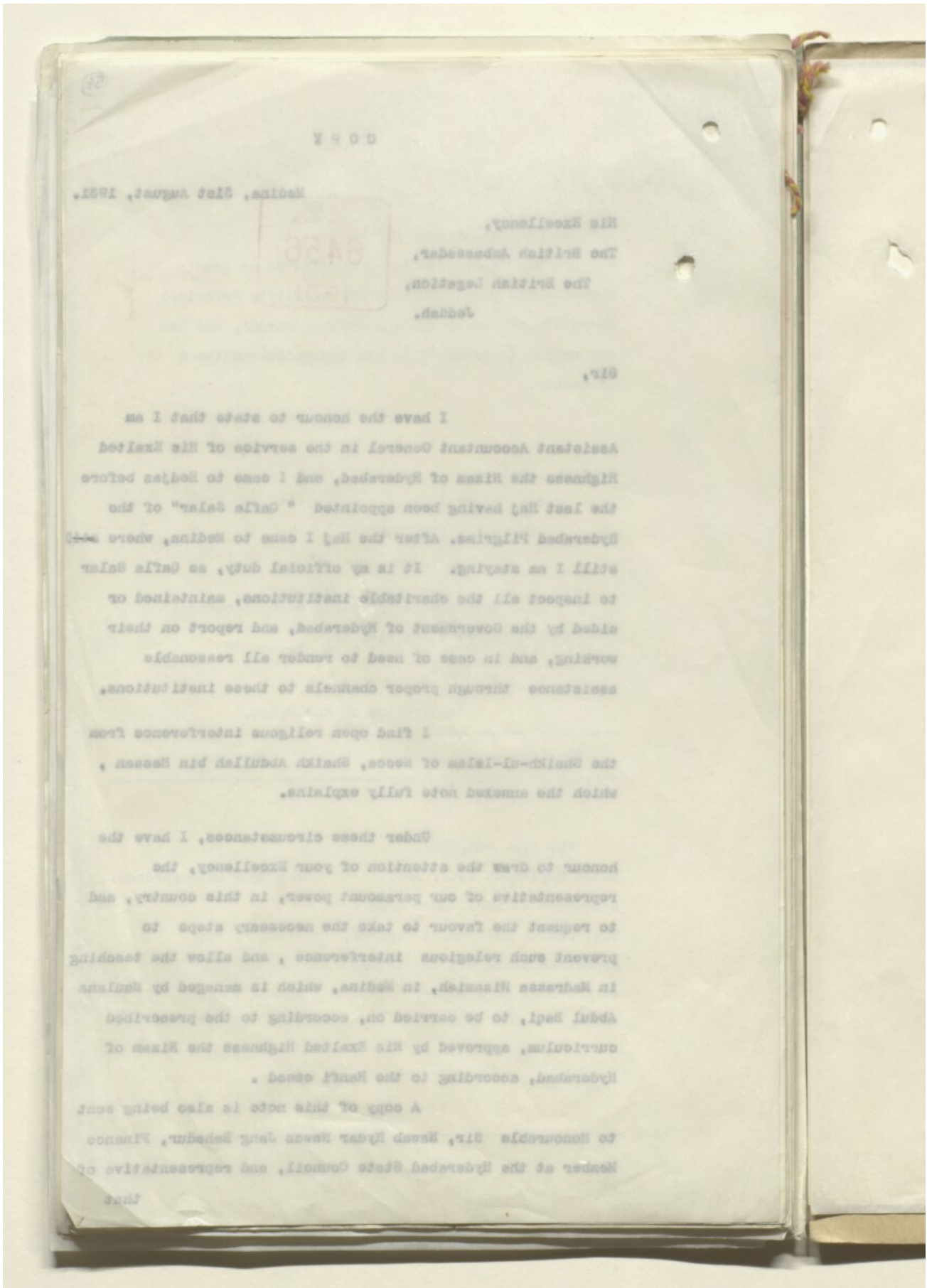
Reference to previous correspondence:
Reference Jedda Despatch No.

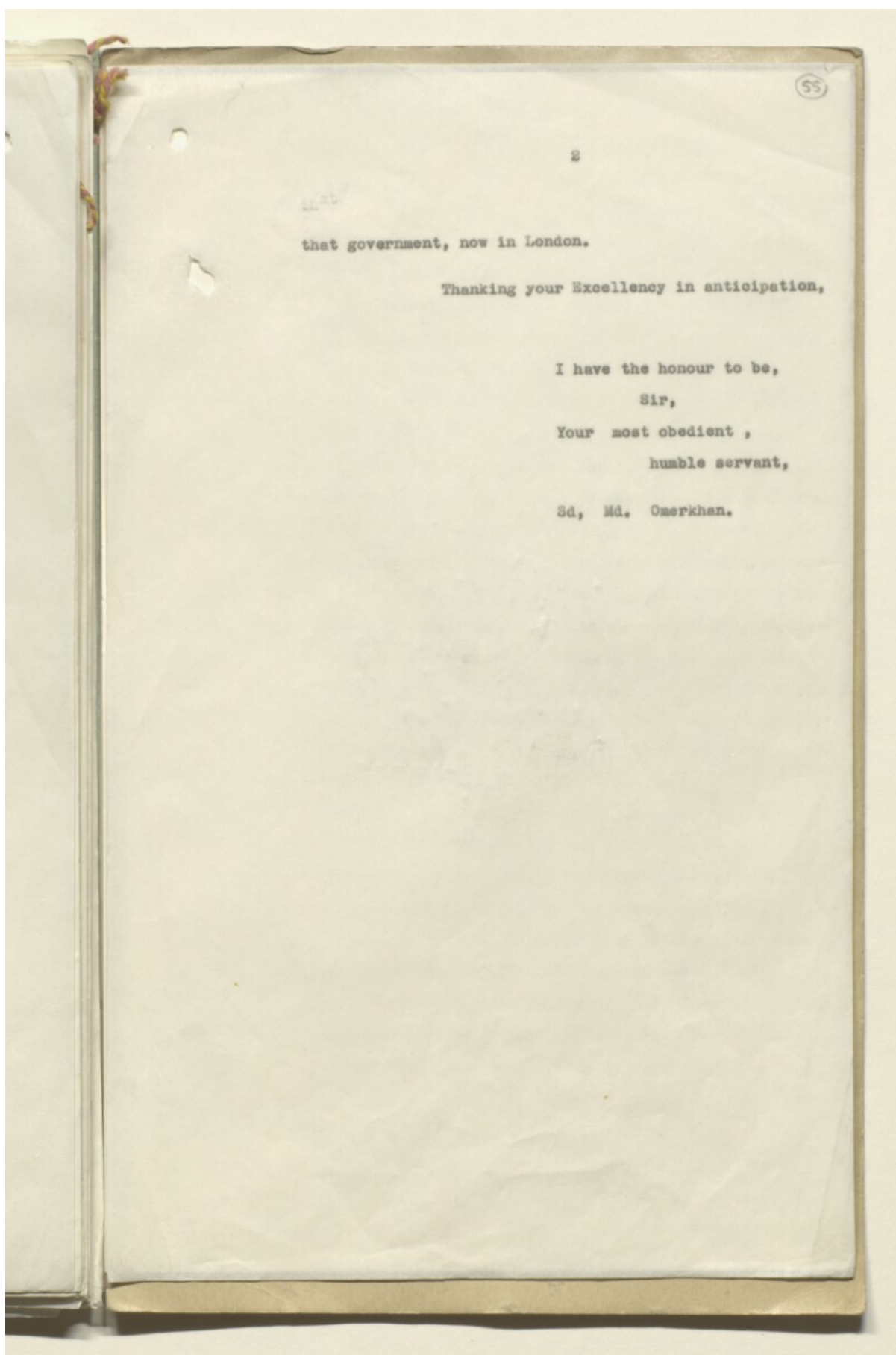
Description of Enclosure.

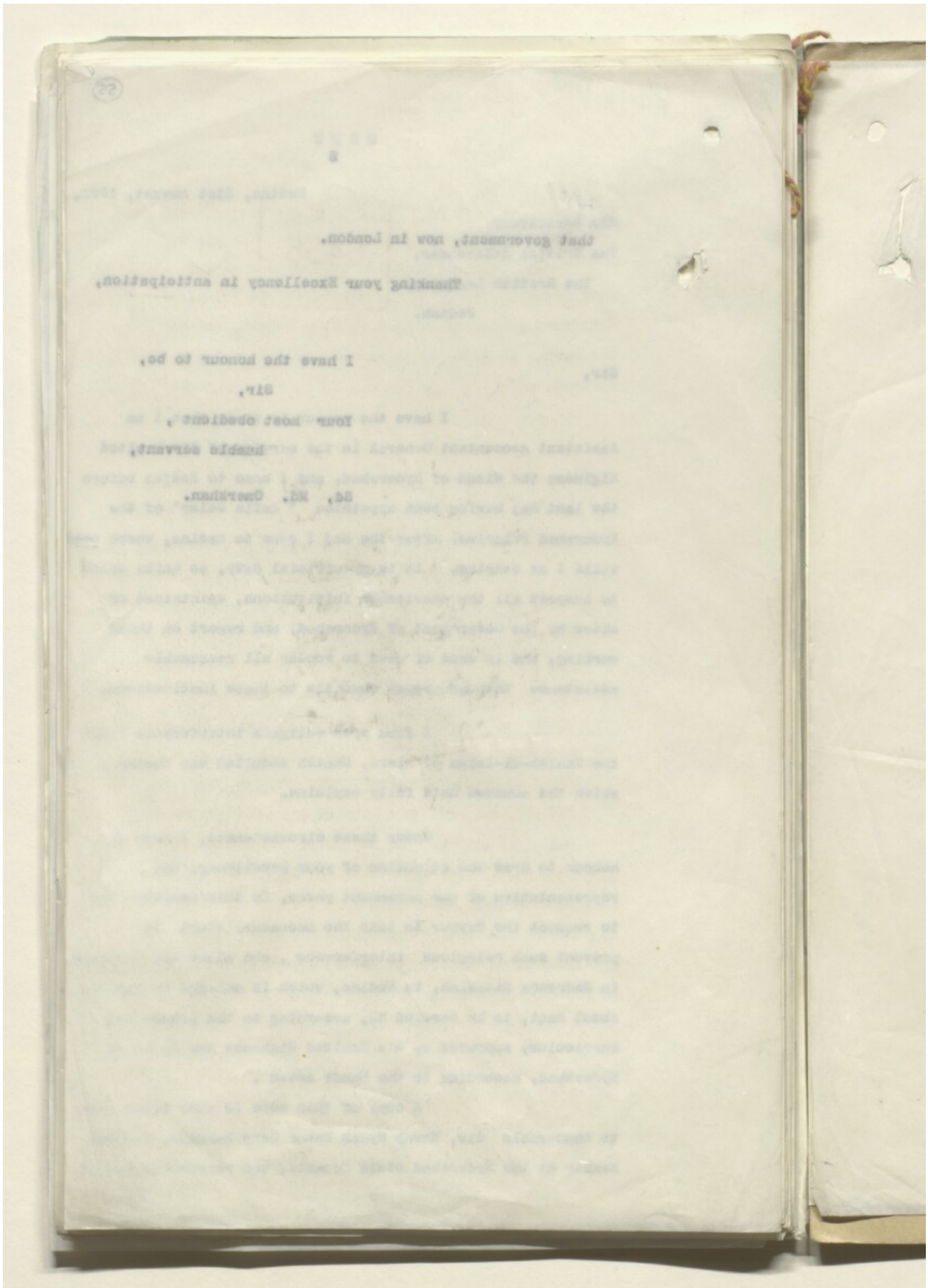
Name and Date.	Subject.
No. I.S. 468/615/2 dated September 12th, 1931, addressed to Mohd. Omer Khan Esq. Asstt. Accountant-General, Hyderabad State and the letter to which it is a reply.	Religious interference.













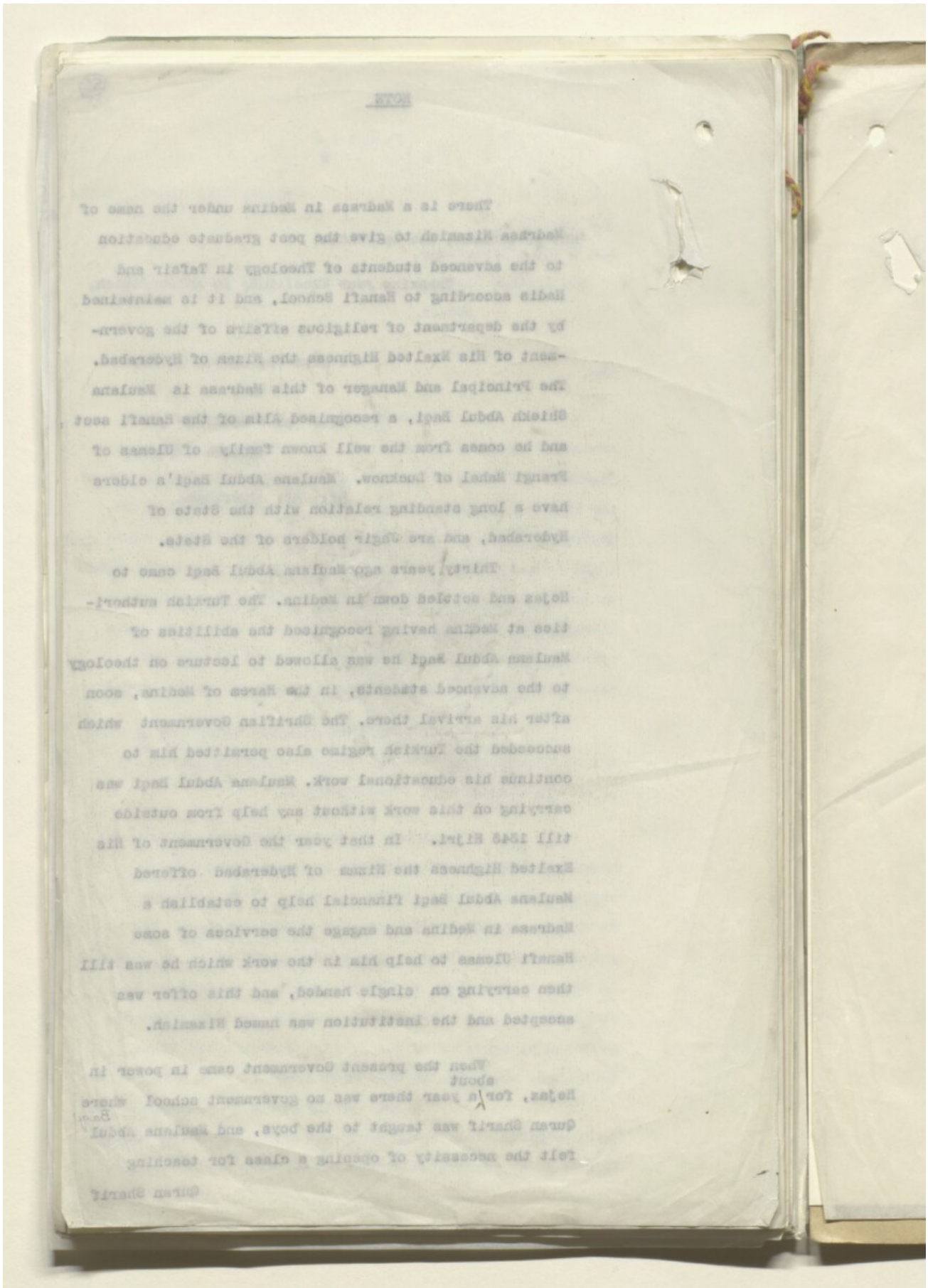
NOTE

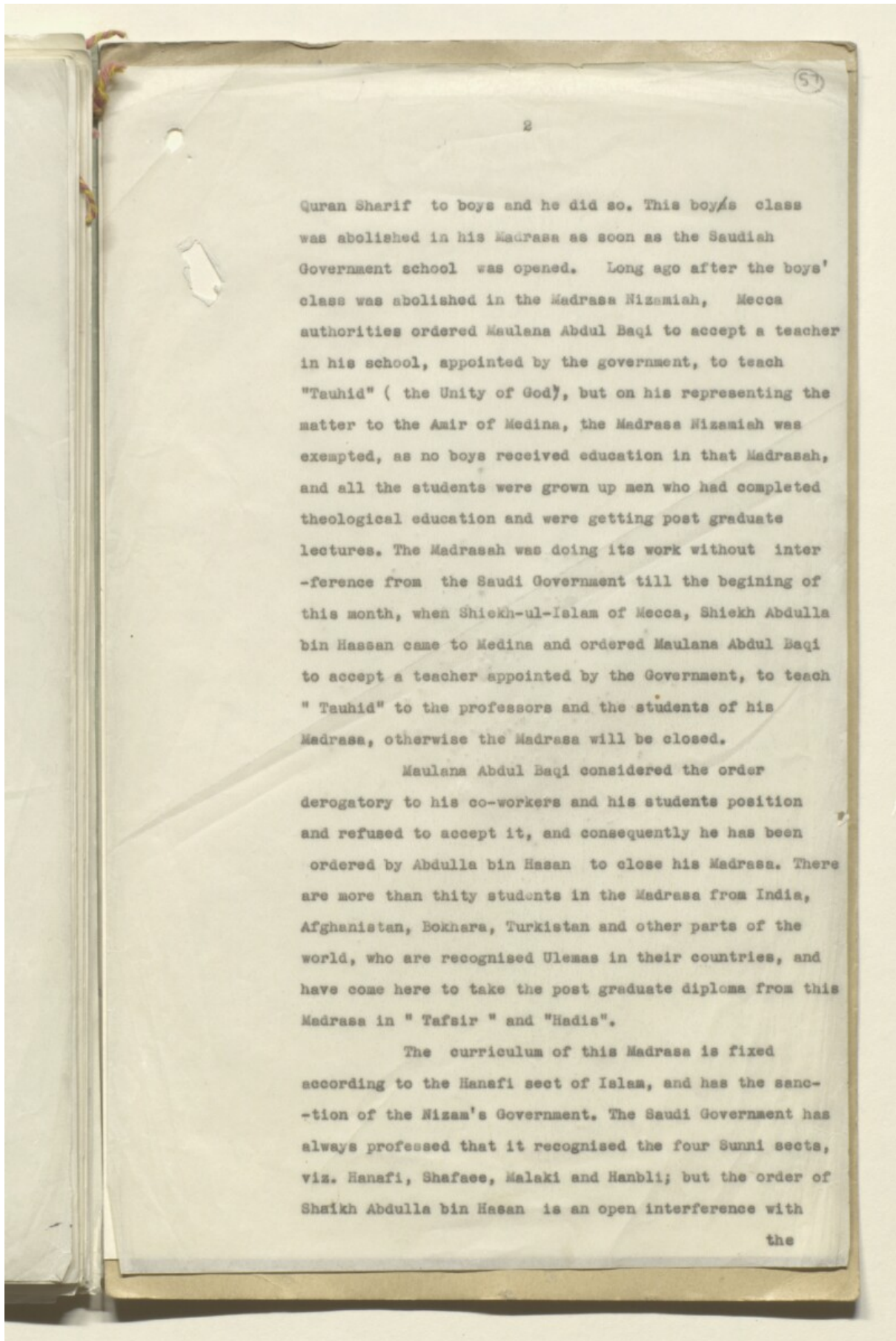
56

There is a Madrasa in Medina under the name of Madrasa Nizamiah to give the post graduate education to the advanced students of Theology in Tafsir and Hadis according to Hanafi School, and it is maintained by the department of religious affairs of the government of His Exalted Highness the Nizam of Hyderabad. The Principal and Manager of this Madrasa is Maulana Shiekh Abdul Baqi, a recognised Alim of the Hanafi sect, and he comes from the well known family of Ulemas of Frangi Mahal of Lucknow. Maulana Abdul Baqi's elders have a long standing relation with the State of Hyderabad, and are Jagir holders of the State.

Thirty years ago Maulana Abdul Baqi came to Hejaz and settled down in Medina. The Turkish authorities at Medina having recognised the abilities of Maulana Abdul Baqi he was allowed to lecture on theology to the advanced students, in the Harem of Medina, soon after his arrival there. The Shrifian Government which succeeded the Turkish regime also permitted him to continue his educational work. Maulana Abdul Baqi was carrying on this work without any help from outside till 1343 Hijri. In that year the Government of His Exalted Highness the Nizam of Hyderabad offered Maulana Abdul Baqi financial help to establish a Madrasa in Medina and engage the services of some Hanafi Ulemas to help him in the work which he was then carrying on single handed, and this offer was accepted and the Institution was named Nizamiah.

When the present Government came in power in about Hejaz, for a year there was no government school where Quran Sharif was taught to the boys, and Maulana Abdul Baqi felt the necessity of opening a class for teaching Quran Sharif





(57)

2

Quran Sharif to boys and he did so. This boys' class was abolished in his Madrasa as soon as the Saudiah Government school was opened. Long ago after the boys' class was abolished in the Madrasa Nizamiah, Mecca authorities ordered Maulana Abdul Baqi to accept a teacher in his school, appointed by the government, to teach "Tauhid" (the Unity of God), but on his representing the matter to the Amir of Medina, the Madrasa Nizamiah was exempted, as no boys received education in that Madrasah, and all the students were grown up men who had completed theological education and were getting post graduate lectures. The Madrasah was doing its work without interference from the Saudi Government till the beginning of this month, when Shiekh-ul-Islam of Mecca, Shiekh Abdulla bin Hassan came to Medina and ordered Maulana Abdul Baqi to accept a teacher appointed by the Government, to teach " Tauhid" to the professors and the students of his Madrasa, otherwise the Madrasa will be closed.

Maulana Abdul Baqi considered the order derogatory to his co-workers and his students position and refused to accept it, and consequently he has been ordered by Abdulla bin Hasan to close his Madrasa. There are more than thirty students in the Madrasa from India, Afghanistan, Bokhara, Turkistan and other parts of the world, who are recognised Ulemas in their countries, and have come here to take the post graduate diploma from this Madrasa in " Tafsir " and "Hadis".

The curriculum of this Madrasa is fixed according to the Hanafi sect of Islam, and has the sanction of the Nizam's Government. The Saudi Government has always professed that it recognised the four Sunni sects, viz. Hanafi, Shafae, Malaki and Hanbli; but the order of Shaikh Abdulla bin Hasan is an open interference with the



...to boys and he did so. This boys' class
was abolished in his Madras as soon as the British
Government school was opened. Long ago after the boys'
class was abolished in the Madras Mission, Madras
authorities ordered Mahanna Abdul Hadi to accept a teacher
in his school, appointed by the Government, to teach
"Tasbeeh" (the Unity of God), but on his representing the
matter to the Asir of Madina, the Madras Mission was
exempted, as no boys received education in that Madras,
and all the students were grown up men who had completed
theological education and were getting post graduate
degrees. The Madras was doing its work without inter-
ference from the Saudi Government till the beginning of
this month, when Sheikh-ul-Islam of Mecca, Sheikh Abdul
bin Hassan came to Madina and ordered Mahanna Abdul Hadi
to accept a teacher appointed by the Government, to teach
"Tasbeeh" to the professors and the students of his
Madras, otherwise the Madras will be closed.
Mahanna Abdul Hadi considered the order
degrading to his co-workers and his students position
and refused to accept it, and consequently he has been
ordered by Abdul bin Hassan to close his Madras. There
are more than fifty students in the Madras from India,
Afghanistan, Bokhara, Turkistan and other parts of the
world, who are recognised Ulema in their countries, and
have come here to take the post graduate diploma from this
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according to the Hanafi sect of Islam, and has the sanc-
tion of the Nizam's Government. The Saudi Government has
always professed that it recognised the four Sunni sects,
viz. Hanafi, Shafi, Maliki and Hanbali but the order of
Sheikh Abdul bin Hassan is an open interference with
the



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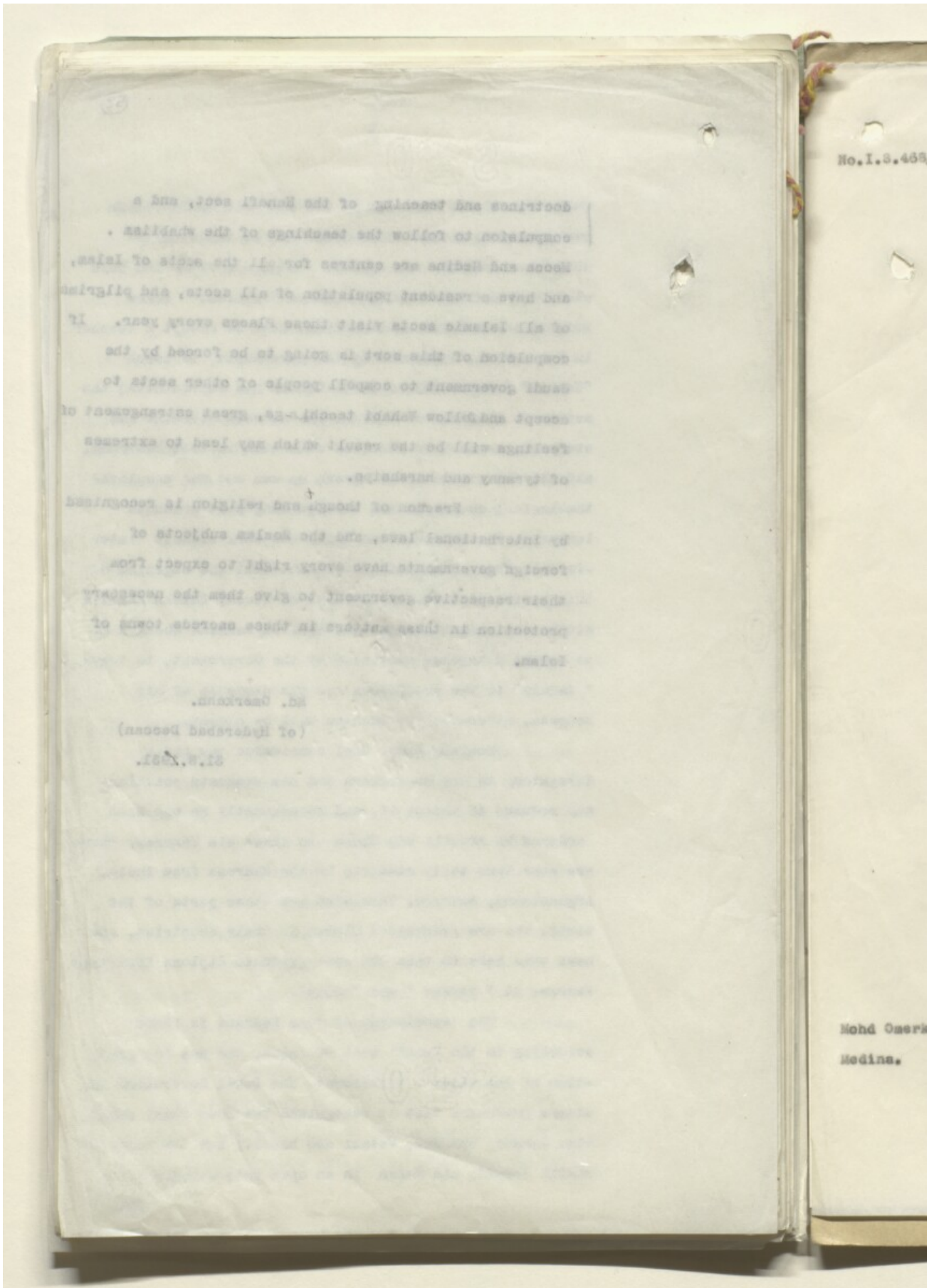
doctrines and teaching of the Hanafi sect, and a
compulsion to follow the teachings of the whabiam .
Mecca and Medina are centres for all the sects of Islam,
and have a resident population of all sects, and pilgrims
of all Islamic sects visit these Places every year. If
compulsion of this sort is going to be forced by the
Saudi government to compell people of other sects to
accept and follow Wahabi teachings, great estrangement of
feelings will be the result which may lead to extremes
of tyranny and harshness.

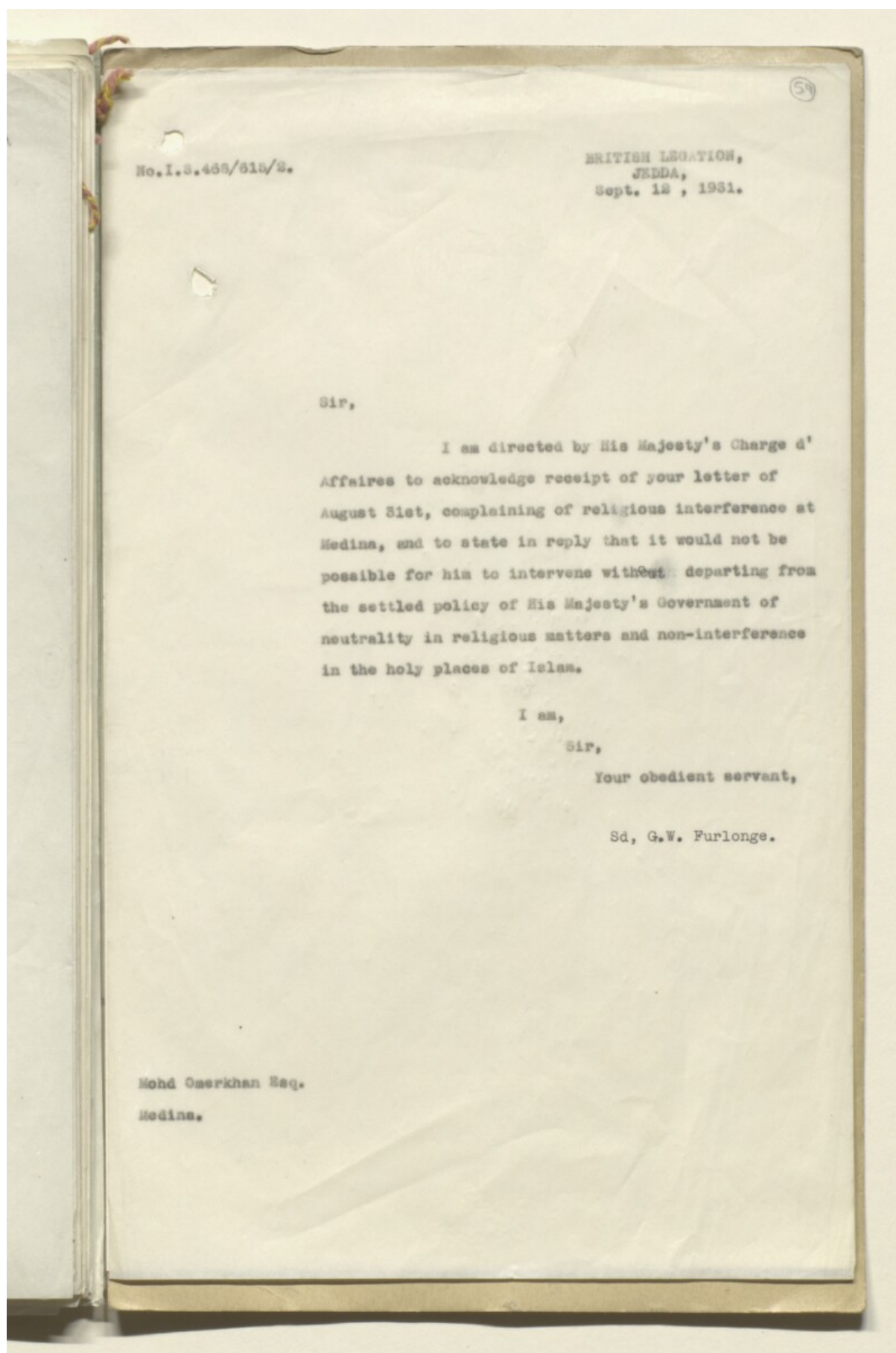
Freedom of thought^t and religion is recognised
by international laws, and the Moslem subjects of
foreign governments have every right to expect from
their respective government to give them the necessary
protection in these matters in these sacred towns of
Islam.

Md. Omerkahn.

(of Hyderabad Deccan)

31.8.1931.





No. I.S. 468/618/2.

BRITISH LEGATION,
JEDDA,
Sept. 12, 1931.

Sir,

I am directed by His Majesty's Charge d' Affaires to acknowledge receipt of your letter of August 31st, complaining of religious interference at Medina, and to state in reply that it would not be possible for him to intervene without departing from the settled policy of His Majesty's Government of neutrality in religious matters and non-interference in the holy places of Islam.

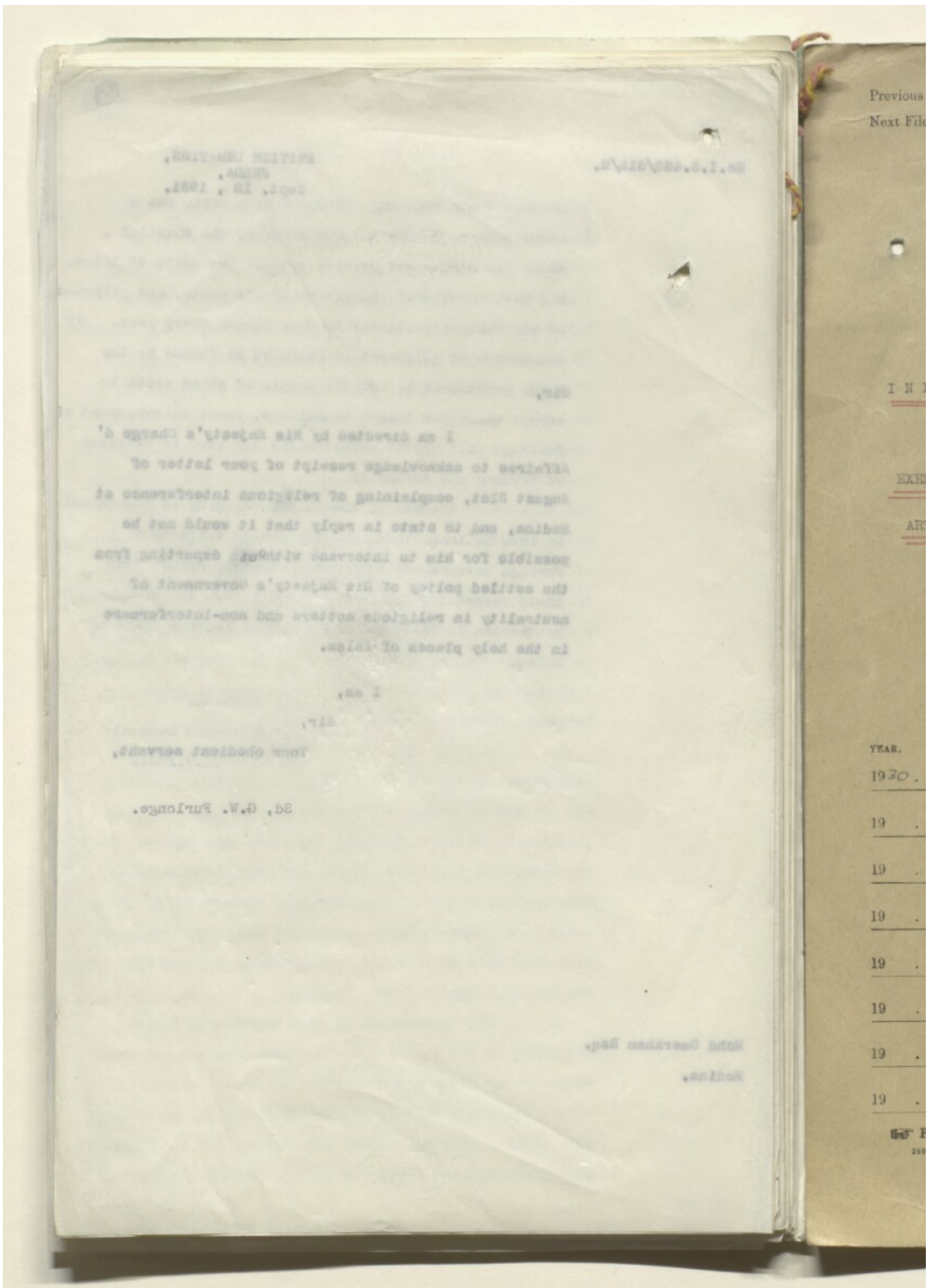
I am,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Sd, G.W. Furlonge.

Mohd Omerkhan Esq.
Medina.





4410
26

Previous File: P.
Next File: P.

POLITICAL AND SECRET DEPARTMENT.

P. 2764/27
19

SUBJECT:

INDIAN STATES: STATES ENQUIRY (BUTLER) C'ttee. 1928-29.

Action taken on Paragraph 88 of the Report.

EXEMPTION OF MEMBERS OF THE CHAMBER OF PRINCES FROM CUSTOMS DUTY ON

ARTICLES IMPORTED FOR THEIR PERSONAL USE.

This file contains the following papers:—

YEAR.	
1930	P. 4727
19	P.
19	P.
19	P.
19	P.
19	P.
19	P.
19	P.
19	P.

Papers may be removed from or placed within this File only by the Political Registry.
2997c - 909 19.29

